FRIDAY FEBRUARY 26 1999

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TOMORROW The husband hunting **Natashas**

Exotic travel guide



Lawrence case informants named in inquiry blunder

By Stewart Tendler and Stephen Farrell

SCOTLAND YARD was offering secret informants in the Stephen Lawrence investigation police protection last night after their identi-ties were published in the Macpherson report and circulated to the men who were accused of the kill-

Sir William Macpherson of Clumy, who chaired the inquiry into the case, issued a public apology for the blunder as police began visiting 28 people who spoke up after the murder six years ago to see The alarm was raised yesterday morning when Yard officers found that a second volume on key documents included a calendar of information drawn up by Kent police as they examined the London investigation after a complaint by the Lawrence family.

● Fantasy Formula One: win a £40,000 TVR page 46 • 🖺 🗓 🗓

The calendar was intended to show how much information the murder team received over a 17-day period. It included the address from which the Yard kept surveillance on some of the suspects, the names of people who gave information about the five men eventually arrested, and the addresses of other



One woman described the publication of her personal details as disgusting, and the relative of another informant said: "Of course we are

concerned; we have the police her with us now." Detective Chief Superintendent David Chapperton, head of Kent

was alerted to the breach and the second part of the report and its reltined for the men accused of the killing, and it had been on the internet It is thought that at least some of

CID and author of the calendar, said: "I am horrified. It was never

meant for publication." Jack Straw

the five suspects had already received the appendices. But Michael Holmes, the solicitor for Gary Dobson, said that his client had not seen the calendar and had no wish to do so because he might be blamed if anything happened to any of the informants. As Conservatives accused the

Home Office of incompetence, Mr Straw shrugged off any suggestion evant appendix was withdrawn withat he or his officials were respon-But 1.500 copies had already been with for the blunder and wrote say-distributed, including five sets des-ting as much to the Speaker. He ing as much to the Speaker. He said that it would have been wrong for him to have checked the contents of an independent inquiry re-

> A spokesman for Sir William's team said: "it's a mistake, it's our re-sponsibility and we very much re-gret what has happened. Basically it was just an error." Last night Mr Straw joined Do-

ing flowers beside the memorial plaque in Eltham, South London. where their son died. The plaque had been desecrated with white paint overnight and police admitted yesterday that the video surveillance camera trained on the spot was a "dummy" with no film in it.

The plaque has been attacked twice before and the bus-stop where Stephen was attacked was also daubed with paint yesterday.

> Help for suspects, page 6 Leading article and Letters, page 27 Media, pages 46, 47

Boy, 4, 1n **snow** tomb rescue

FROM ROGER BOYES IN LANDECK, AUSTRIA

THE rescue of a four-year-old Tuesday. As the Austrian aualmost two hours, yesterday couraged first aid workers and Austrian soldiers to continue their increasingly desperate search for survivors of one of the most deadly avalanches experienced in the

Tyrolean Alps.
The boy, still in intensive care but said to be smiling, was found clinically dead after 100 minutes under the deep layer of snow which swept into the small village of Valur.

Doctors managed to reanimate him and ease his hypo-thermia. With the help of a helcopter pilot willing to brave a snowstorm he was flown to

Dr Alois Schranz, chief surgeon at Zams Hospital who worked round the clock to bring the boy back to life, said he could be seen as the "mirade of Valzur".

Doctors calculate that few ple can survive much more than 15 minutes beneath the snow; the strong likelihood is that they will suffocate.

The boy — his name has not been released — was hit by the torrent of snow in the second avalanche in 24 hours in the disaster area. Valzur is on the outskirts of Galtur which was devastated by an avalanche on

trapped under snow for thorities struggled to evacuate Galtur on Wednesday, the Valzur avalanche struck.

Five people are still lost in the Valzur drift, six in Galtur. In the two resorts, a total of 32 bodies have been found, 27 of

It was a sniffer dog that discovered the boy. The dogs are proving invaluable as time runs out but they can also raise false hopes, smelling an item of clothing rather than a trapped human. As the rescue team started to dig, however, it became clear that there was indeed a buried child.

The first assumption was that the child was dead. He seemed to be not breathing and the rescue workers were unable to find a pulse. But after strenuous reanimation, the apparently lifeless child started to react.

Wrapped in thermal blankets, be was taken by helicopter down the valley - through the darkness and the heavy snowstorm - to Galtur and was later transferred to the hospital at Zams.

The rescue team - more than 300 strong — needed this kind of spur. They are begin-ning to crumple with fatigue and the emotional strain of unearthing body after body. Psy-



Tourists arriving at Pontiatz barracks in Landeck after being airlifted from the avalanche-stricken resort of Galtūr

chiatrists are dividing their time between mourning parents, disoriented children and the rescue workers them-

Rescue organisers said yesterday that 21 bodies had been identified: nine were Germans, five Dutch: five Austrians and two Danes. No British holidaymakers have been killed and none are reported

The evacuation of Galtur was almost complete last night. Most of those now staying on have chosen to do so. Rescuers searching in the vil-lage were stunned yesterday to find a dog which had apparently survived for two days under the snow, an official said. The black mongrel was found in

the wreckage of a house. Army rescue officials have called the animal, whose owners were among those who died in the resort village, Flecki. Colonel Raimund Lammer, a rescue official, said another officer who already has a dog had agreed to adopt it. Today, if the weather holds,

the focus will shift to evacuat-

ing Ischgl, parts of which may be under threat from new avalanches. But the searchers will continue to probe the snowdrifts of Galtur and Valzur using long sticks, dogs and special sensors — in case they stumble on another miracle.

Hopes for finding survivors have centred on air holes under the wreckage of destroyed

Departing tourists de-scribed days of terror follow-ing the Galtiur avalanche as they waited for the airlift. "It was terrible, especially

the nights," said Birgit Pick, a German holidaymaker. didn't know if there would be another avalanche. We hardly

slept for two nights. The organisation was a bit chaotic. Yesterday we stood for five hours in the snow with our children, waiting for a flight out, and then we were told we couldn't go. We went back to our hotel and were very frightened all night long. But this morning we got the first flight out, thank God."

White Death, pages 4 & 5

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Tories gain ground, but Hague struggles

By PETER RIDDELL

SUPPORT for the Conservative Party has risen to 30 per cent for the first time since the 1997 election, according to the latest MORI poll for The

The poll, undertaken last weekend, is mixed news for the Tories. The party's rating jumped six points from the very low level of late January after the row over genetically modified foods. But William Hague's personal rating continued to decline — to a record low among Tory supporters. By a two to one margin, Tories are dissatisfied rather than satisfied with his performance.

Support for Labour has fallen by five points to 51 per cent. the lowest since the election, with the Liberal Democrats unchanged on 14 per cent. It is, however, premature to talk about mid-term blues since support for Labour is higher. and for the Tories lower, than



The poll also shows that there is all to play for over the euro, with half of the public saying they could be swayed either way, depending on what they think will be best for the British economy. At the moment, support for the currency

is evenly split with 46 per cent supporting British participation and 45 per cent against. This represents a marked shift since the 54 to 37 per cent balance against in August 1996.

The total includes 17 per cent strong supporters and 24 per cent strong opponents. Twenty-nine per cent of those questioned were generally in favour but could be persuaded against, while 21 per cent generally opposed could be persuaded in favour.

Two-thirds think it likely that they will regularly use the euro by 2010.

MORI interviewed 1,769 adults at 155 sampling points between February 19 and 22. Voting intention figures exclude those who say they would not vote (10 per cent). are undecided (6 per cent) or who refuse to name a party (I ner cent).

Labour stides, page 12 Mary Ann Sieghart, page 26 Letters, page 27

Cook names MI6 chief as new 'C'

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE EDITOR

THE present director of operations at MI6 is to be the new "C", the Chief of the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS), Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, announced yesterday.

Richard Dearlove, 54, who is also Assistant Chief of SIS, the second most senior post at MI6, will succeed Sir David Spedding who is retiring in September. He will serve as "C" initially for three years but is likely to stay on for five.

The naming of the new "C" follows a tradition begun by the last Conservative Government under which the heads



of the three security and intelligence services, MI5. MI6 and GCHQ, the secret communications centre at Cheltenham. are identified. Other senior members are supposed to remain anonymous.

Richard Billing Dearlove, who joined MI6 in 1966. served as an undercover intelligence officer in Nairobi, Prague and Paris. After a period in London he was posted to Geneva and then Washington. before returning to London in 1993 as one of M16's directors.

Like other intelligence officers, he never attained a senior official diplomatic rank, spending much of his career as a First Secretary, a normal "cover" ranking given to MI6 officers in British Embassies.

Mr Dearlove, who obtained a history honours degree from Queen's College, Cambridge, is married with two sons and a daughter, all in their 20s.

Sir David never made a public appearance and his picture has never been published.

'Junket Jack' owns up to his freebies

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

IACK CUNNINGHAM, the Cabinet Office minister known at Westminster as "Junket Jack", had his reputation for high living confirmed yesterday when he declared a lengthy list of free hospitality in the past 12 months.

The latest Register of Mempeer Inperests shows that Dr Cumningham, the Cabinet "Enforcers, accepted a series of tickets for himself and his wife Maureen for the ballet, the opera. Wimbledon and Newcas-

tle United football matches. Dr Conningham, who originally earned his epithet for costly ministerial trips overseas, including a flight on Concorde, admits to tickets and hospitality at the Royal Albert Hall, courtesy the English Na-

tional Ballet last June 18. A week later he went to Glyndebourne, courtesy British Nuclear Fuels, before attending the men's finals at Wimbledon on July 5, courtesy Coca-Cola. In September he

was given two days free fishing by Scottish Coal and throughout the year he has enjoyed days of hospitality at St James' Park, home ground to Newcastle United at the expense of the football club.

Jack Straw, the Home Secre tary, also appears susceptible to the odd freebie. Last month he decided to register that he had received two tickets to Wimbledon for July 3, from the England Lawn Tennis Club, and two tickets for the England v Moldova match a Wembley, courtesy the Football Association.

He declared a visit to Glyndebourne, paid for by Marks & Spencers. His latest entry, on January 22, discloses that he and his family obtained a "space available" upgrade to club class for their outward and return trips to Delhi over Christmas, courtesy British Airways. He saved £8,280.

MPs profit, page 13



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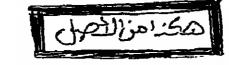
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Bores will be bores as grey men strive for tedium

Three men awoke early. For each, yesterday was a big day. Stephen Byers. Trade and industry Secretary, knew he must per-

Alon Michael knew that opening the Debate on Wales, later, the speech would strike the keynote for his newly confirmed leadership of the

Weish Labour Party. And for Richard Livsey, Liberal Democrat spokesman on Wales, his own speech mattered hugely. This was the last St David's Day debate before the Welsh Assembly elections. His party have high hopes. Three men with different

purposes. But one goal they shared. To win the title Most Boring MP in Britain. Each was in hot contention; they are this sketch's finalists. Thursday offered each a chance to shine - at being outstandingly dull.

"Mirror, mirror, on the wall, who is the dullest of us all?" muttered Mr Byers as he shaved, taking care not to cut himself lest colour pierce the grey. He slicked his hair into shape, not a grey strand out of

Shirt? Plain white. Mr Byers surveyed a range of twopiece suits, well cut but not ostentatiously so. Briefly he con-



sidered a charcoal flannel. No, too dark a grey. A dove-grey pinstripe? Too light a grey. He chose a mid-grey

suit Third Way grey.
Tie? Grey of course, but silk or wool? He chose grey silk, setting off suit, hair and disposition beautifully. A grey Gov-ernment limo had arrived with his red (ugh!) box. He set out for Westminster.

Alun Michael was there already. Forced, against every

speaking often. But the judges must mark Byers down: he was almost crisp. Vacuity should be limp. "No comment" raises an eyebrow where a page of pap lowers eyelids — surely the aim. order not to stand out) he had

After noon came Alun chosen grey suit. mid-blue tie. Michael. Splendid. He spoke Richard Livsey paced his of-fice floor rehearsing his without meaning for nearly an hour, ostensibly on Wales. speech. He must iron out any In the Strangers' Gallery they were keeling over. wrinkle of interest - adopt a monotone unrelieved by the Michael was helped by an

least vocal modulation. It was almost empty Chamber (a couple of Tories, eight on his own side, and one Liberal Demogoing well. Four pigeons were comatose on the windowsill. First over the wire was crat) but I was ready to cast Stephen Byers. Magnificent! my vote for him when the Liberal Democrat rose, Richard He said absolutely nothing,

Livsey gave us a tour de force: this man was not just boringly boring he was speciacularly

People turned to each other in wonder that anyone could be so boring. "St-David's day--is-as-we-know-a-special-day-i n-the-calendar," he droned never, in all that dreadful dirge, raising eyes from text, or voice by so much as a semitone. "We-need-vision-and !eadership and we need it des-

living demonstration of his Judges were poised between Michael and Livsey. Then Michael dinched it

for Livsey. For Rhodri Mor-gan spoke, the man Mr Michael has just beaten in an unfair contest for the leadership in Wales.

Alun Michael didn't even listen. He chatted to a pal, then walked out - while Morgan was speaking. That isn't boring it's stunning. Convicted of astonishingly discourte-sy, Michael loses to Livsey who is a gent, and a nice one. One anxiety troubles the

judges. This sort of behaviour perately." Livsey perorated, a is becoming the norm among new Labour. Courtesy will soon be considered an attention-grabbing eccentricity. Boors will be boring.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prescription charges to rise by 10p

Prescription charges are to rise by 10p to £5.90 from April 1. The increase is meant to help raise £377 million for the NHS in the next financial year — enough money to run the service for two days. Announcing the increase vister-day. John Denham the Health Minister, promised that for the next three years prescription charges would rise by no more than the rate of inflation. Yesterday's rise was the lowest for 20 years, he said, and was below the infla-

A free Prescriptions Advice Line is being set up so that pa-tients can find out if they are eligible for a prescription without payment. The Government has also agreed that from April everyone over 60 will be eligible for free eye

House Party is over for

Edmonds as

viewers quit

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portra

Education ...

Swiss chocs win

Cadbury lost the battle of the Appeal when it was banned from selling its Swiss Chalet chocolate, and landed with a £1 million-plus legal bill. Su-chard and Lindt protested that the confectionery was wrongly being passed off as real Swiss chocolate.

Art tax stalled

Lobbying by the Government and auction houses delayed an EU move to impose a royalty levy on modern art sales every time a work is sold for up to 70 years after an artist's death.
The German presidency of the
EU agreed to postpone an attempt to force through the left on a majority vote.

Leah charge

A woman was charged by police yesterday following the death of a 13-year-old girl from a suspected drugs over-dose. Leah Lawson was dis-covered by her mother oo the sofa of their home in Grimsby on Saturday. A 24-year-old woman has been charged with supplying drugs.

Chef cleared -

A caterer was deared of blame for an outbreak of sal-monella poisoning that afflict-ed 100 people who had eaten his chocolate mousse. Salford Magistrates Court ruled that Marc Cooper, of Whitefield Manchester, had taken exercit plary care in preparing the

Daughter free

laundered £70 million.

Law lords' log-jam delays key rulings

By Frances GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

GENERAL PINOCHET WILL not hear his fate for at least another three weeks because the highest court in the land is fac-ing an overload of work which is causing delays in cases right down through the courts.

The law lords are struggling to complete their draft opinions on whether the former dictator is immune from prosecution because two of them are also chairing public inquiries: Lord Saville is chalring the Bloody Sunday inquiry and Lord Phillips is chairing the

BSE inquiry.
In the wake of the fiasco which prompted a second Pinochet hearing in January, they are also determined to ensure their opinions are legally watertight and there are "no loose ends" as one put it, even though they are likely to be di-

The backlog has been made worse first by the emergency Pinochet hearing before Christmas and then the rehearing as a result of Lord Hoffmann's failure to disclose links with

Amnesty International. The situation has been made more difficult because the law lords are not up to their full strength of 12: Lord Nicholls is in Hong Kong, sitting there on the final court of appeal. Retired law lords such as Lord Mackay of Clashfern. Lord Mustill and Lord Jauneey of Tullichettle have been

brought in to sit on cases. The shortage is holding up several cases in the Court of Appeal and litigants are becoming angry about the de-

In one important case, affecting the right of people to sue over child abuse, judgment has still not been delivered some six months after the hear-

At least a dozen other actions are awaining the outcome of this judgment, involving the London Borough of Enfield.

which will determine whether local authorities can be sued over the abuse of children in

One litigant has leave to go to the Court of Appeal over the sexual abuse and rape of his niece when in care, but his case is held up pending the out-come of the child abuse ruling.

The man, who cannot be named for legal reasons, said yesterday: "This ruling is far more important than this Pinochet case. But we are just keep being told that they don't

know when our ruling will be.
It's disgusting.
"We have been waiting months. We have been up through every court in the land. I mean, if one of these law lords drops dead in the meantime, then the whole case will have to be heard all over

The man, who comes from East London, became a guardian, looking after his niece. Now in her twenties, she was raped in 1979. It took several rapist to be taken seriously but finally in 1994 he was charged and convicted of rape and jailed for ten years at the Old Bailey.

Now he wants to sue the local authority for damages and after a couple of setbacks in the lower courts, his case has reached the Court of Appeal.

James Vallance-White, principal clerk in the House of Lords Judicial Office, agreed that they were under-staffed at present. "We are one down each day, with only nine law lords available, which means we do not have enough to staff both the Privy Council and the appeal committee for current

He said there were some ten cases outstanding waiting judgment apart from cases currently being heard. They are very aware of the problem and



The futuristic design for the mayoral palace in London will be a vote of confidence in London as an international city, the Government believes

Glass dish reflects choice for London

By ROLAND WATSON, POLITICAL

A TEN-storey glass dish designed by Sir Norman Foster will be chosen today as the home for the new Mayor of London. Nick Raynsford, the minister for London, will tell MPs that the futuristic structure on the South Bank of the Thames has beaten its neo-classical rival in

In deciding to go for a brand new building to house the new office rather than supporting a facelift for an old one, ministers believe they are giving a vote of confidence not only to the status of the mayor. but also to London as an international city. "It will symbolise renewal and mod-

However, the choice has its opponents within government. Tony Blair himself is said to have reservations about the poten-tial dangers of creating an alternative power base across the water from Westminster and the echoes it will carry of the Greater London Council. Senior Labour figures fear that giving the mayor a seat across the Thames will inevitably see the new post challenge the supremacy of Par-

liament when it comes to London affairs. Labour opponents of Ken Livingstone's hid to become the party's candidate for the job served notice last night that they will use the symbolism of the

ernisation for our great capital as we approach the millennium," said a White man's building to fuel their case. Sir Norman's building, though, will be out of sight of Westminster, two miles downstream overlooking Tower Bridge.

Described variously as a glass egg. a soapdish or a fencing mask, the building will occupy 13 acres. It will be hung from two masts and will be clad in glass, with the proposed assembly chamber for the Greater London Authority. Also on the site will be a huge complex of offices, shops and a 180-bedroom hotel.

The alternative would have been Victoria House, an office block near the British Museum, remodelled by Will Alson so that the roof was raised and three floors west made over to accommodate the chamber



Foster: designed

Surgery cut to relieve Montgomery's strain on tired staff Drumcree bid

ment targets. Despite the staff

shortages the trust was only

2.7 per cent below its target fig-ure for operations at the end of

Helen Davis, theatre manag-

er, said: "Staff have been work-

ing under great pressure to try to cover for the shortages and

we feel it isn't fair on them or

the patients they care for to try

to maintain the current level of

services given the circumstances. The staff feel they need a

chance to regroup and take

some time to work out longer-

last month.

MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THREE teaching hospitals are cutting the time spent on operations by a fifth because the effort to reduce waiting lists has left staff too exhausted to maintain their current

The Royal Hospitals Trust, which runs St Bartholomew's Hospital, the Royal London and London Chest Hospital. has agreed to cancel 16 of its 96 theatre sessions a week because staff said they could no longer safely keep up the required pace.

shortage of theatre nurses and auxiliaries. Theatre staff have hospital spokeswoman added: "We had to give the staff a been putting in many hours of overtime to try to meet govern-

"If they went on at that rate quality would go down, pa-tients would suffer. They have done their best, but recruitment is almost impossible." Government figures re-

leased yesterday showed that the "waiting list for the waiting list" is growing rapidly. The number waiting more than three months to see a specialist has grown 40 per cent in the nine months since the Government launched its £320 million initiative to cut the length of waiting lists.

By MARTIN FLETCHER CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

DAVID MONTGOMERY, who resigned as the Mirror Group's chief executive in January, is stepping in to try to resolve the seven-month deadlock over the Orange Order's banned Drumcree parade.

Mr Montgomery met Brendan McKenna, leader of the nationalist residents of Portadown's Garvaghy Road, last Friday. He has also had informal discussions with Jonathan Powell, Tony Blair's chief of staff, who has chaired two rounds of fruitless "proximity" talks between the Orangemen and the residents.

Mr Montgomery, who was born in Northern Ireland, is a close friend of David Trimble, the Province's First Minister and Portadown's MP. It was unclear last night whether he was intervening at Mr Trim-ble's behest. The First Minister's spokesman had no comment and Mr Montgomery was unavailable. Downing Street said Mr Montogmery would have no formal role but

may be able to help. There is growing concern in the Province that a new marching season is approaching with no resolution in sight.

dessert with a raw egg.

Benita Pearce, 33, who vacuumed around her mother as she lay dying on the floor, was given 12 months in jail, suspended for two years, after Truro Crown Court was told she was mentally ill. She admitted manslaughter.

Launderer jailed A London businessman who

became a multimillionaire by laundering criminal cash through his Bureau de Change was jailed for 14 years and fined fl million. Ussama El-Kurd is believed to have

Channel 4 fined for fake show Blair warns failing train firms

BY RAYMOND SNDDDY, MEDIA EDITOR

THE Independent Television Commission will announce today that it has fined Channel 4 for the first time. The penalty has been imposed because it broadcast a documentary about rent boys in which key scenes were faked. The £150,000 fine is only a

fraction of the £2 million fine imposed by the ITC on Carlton Communication over The Connection, a documentary about the Colombian drugs cartels that contained faked scenes. Granada was fined £500,000 for product placements on This Morning, the show presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnegan. Channel 4 has already ad-

mitted that a "deliberate and organised deception" took place over Chickens, a documentary that purported to show rent boys plying their trade in Glasgow. The interviews with rent boys were genuine but three short scenes apparently of rent boys setting up meetings with clients were played by staff of the programme maker, Basement

Productions. Channel 4 did not know that the scenes were not real and would have been happy to label them as "reconstructions". Although the fine is smaller than expected. Channel 4 is annoyed to be fined at all because it believes it had



scenes had been faked. The ITC decision comes amid growing concern over the truth of what is shown on

ers yesterday issued a statement expressing serious concern about standards after complaints that fake guests were interviewed on The Va-

A preliminary investigation found that four guests had been booked through agents, and two were fakes. But no evidence was found to support claims that staff had knowingly booked fake guests. The governors said: "The

board will not tolerate fakes masquerading as facts."
Today Sir Robin Biggam, chairman of the ITC, is expected to issue a warning of severe punishment for broadcasters

if there are further breaches of

trust with the viewer.

MINISTERS yesterday set out new tests to judge train companies' performance as fresh evidence emerged that punctuality is worsening. Tougher time targets and passenger opinion will be used to bring

standards closer to travellers' expecta-

The move to tighten regulations set up at the time of privatisation came as Tony Blair condemned train companies for failing passengers and said that the worst performers had no future in the industry. The Prime Minister told the 25 train companies that rule changes would be introduced for companies that wanted to extend their franchises or hoped to take over

Several of the biggest rail companies are pressing for extensions to their contracts, most of which are due to end in 2003. The large rail companies are also in

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT, AND FRASER NELSON discussion with some of smallest operators who face financial difficulty as subsi-

dies are reduced over the next four years. Mr Blair told the first national rail summit, attended by senior figures from the in-dustry: "I want to make it perfectly clear to you that you are on trial. You are failing your customers and those who continue to fail them have no place in the rail industry of the future.

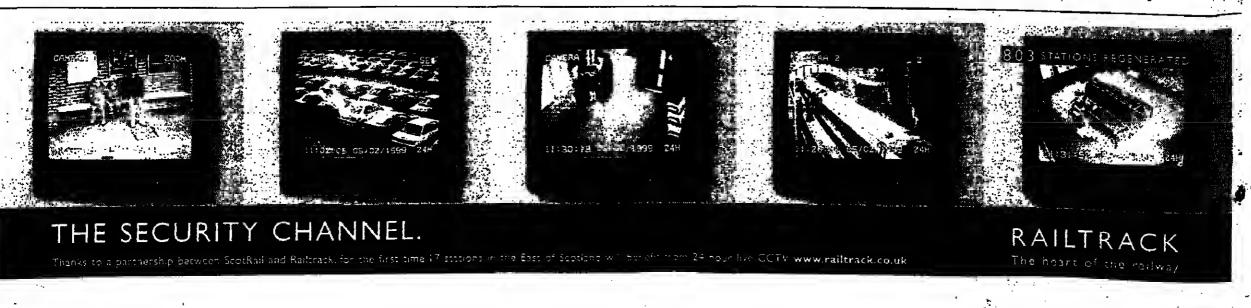
"Don't think either that the length of the franchises held by train operating companies means that everything between us is set in stone. Don't think that because the franchises are contractually in place there is nothing we can do to drive forward improvements - that we will have to wait until the franchises come to an end."

Internal industry punctuality figures, seen by The Times, show that most networks had a growing number of late

trains in the past two months. Island Line, the only network to have earned an "A" rating, has now been demoted to a "B", leaving no "A" grade operators in the entire network.

ScotRail, the most punctual network in the country, has slipped from its high standards in five of its seven routes. Cardiff Railways and Connex South Central have continued to run more late trains.

The sharpest deterioration has come from Virgin Cross Country, where the annual level of late trains has increased from 17.7 to 19.5 per cent since December. Some franchises have improved: Connex. South Eastern and Midland Main Line have increased punctuality. The latest government figures, released two weeks agodate to December 12, 1998. The new figures gathered by The Times deal with the 12 months to February 6.



Lecturer' in £200,000 masquerade was awarded an MA in 1993. A

Schizophrenic went on run after banking wages from fictitious staff, reports Adam Sherwin



Yuksei: cover was blown by new colleagues

A SCHIZOPHRENIC woman who carned almost £200,000 after fooling a university into giving her a senfor post was yesterday sent to a secure psychiatric unit after two years

Soraya Yuksel was convicted in 1996 of deceiving Reading Universi-ty and false accounting but absconded before being sentenced. She was re-arrested at Warwick University. where she had just been appointed a part-time teacher under the name Angela Cooper.

Yesterday she was ordered to be detained under the Mental Health Act by a judge at Reading Crown

Yuksel, who has a long history of mental illness, was a good teacher. Reading said after the case that it

had tightened up its recruitment procedures. The court was told that Yuksel, 50, employed two fictitious lecturers -one her daughter and the other a former colleague who worked abroad -- and banked their earnings.

She had become a part-time lan-guages teacher at Reading University in 1989 after producing photocop-ied documents to support her claim that she had Arabic and Islamic his-

tory degrees from Edinburgh University. Barnaby Evans, for the prosecution, said that her story was embellished by a glowing reference, ap-parently supplied by a colleague from Ankara University, but in reali-

ty written by herself. She was given a full-time position as language access development officer in 1993. To obtain the post, she claimed to have a PhD from Durham University and presented more fake documents. "She said that in fu-ture she should be known by the ti-tle of doctor," Mr Evans said. He told the court that Yuksel, from Birmingham, had defrauded the university of £191,593 before an anonymous tip-off led to her arrest in 1996. David Frampton, Registrar at

Reading University, said: We took her qualifications at face value on the basis of what we believed were proper letters of confirmation. They turned out to be forged. We have strengthened our arrangements for checking credentials."

Mr Frampton said there was no indication that Yuksel was mentally ill. "Within the university her behaviour was perfectly normal. I still have no reason to question her performance as a teacher," he said. Yuksel was re-arrested at War-

wick University two years later after she had been appointed a part-time teacher of English under the name of Angela Cooper. Her new col-leagues recognised her face in a "wanted for questioning" advertise-ment in a teaching journal.

To obtain the Warwick post she cited a Masters in English Teaching from Aston University. The university confirmed that an Angela Cooper was awarded an MA in 1993. A spokesman for Warwick University said: "She was a good teacher. When the police arrested her, she insisted

on picking up some coursework."

Alex Lewis, representing Yuksel, told Judge Josh Lair. "She has a severe mental illness, schizophrenia. She has been admitted for treatment in 1967, 1971, 1983 and 1996. She is a risk to herself and others and re-

propriate Mental Health Act." Judge Lait ordered that Yuksel, a mother of two, be sent to the secure unit at Queen Charlotte's Hospital.

quires psychiatric treatment and

care in a secure unit under the ap-

House Party is over for Edmonds as viewers quit

BY CAROL MIDGLEY, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE Saturday night television show that irritates celebrities and critics alike — Noel's House Party - was scrapped by the BBC last night.

The programme, hosted by Noel Edmands, one of the BBC's most highly paid presenters, dropped to an all-time low of 5.9 million viewers at the weekend. Peter Salmon, BBCl controller, said it was time to "move on" after pushing the show "as far as it can go". Edmonds is pressing ahead with plans for a new Sat-

urday evening primetime show that is expected to be aired early next year. Noel's House Party has

been killed off after a series of poor reviews and spats involving other celebrities. Trevor McDonald, the News at Ten presenter, was outraged when Edmonds tried to make him the subject of a "gotcha" wind-up — a regular feature in his - by tricking him into



Eduvate has started planning for new show

reading out a series of messages in regional slang during re-cording. Mr McDonald left the set, saying: "I don't do this. I'm not a comedian."

Edmonds has also been involved in a long-running feud with Chris Evans, the Virgin Radio owner. It emerged that Edmonds had been secretly filming Evans for months as one of his spoofs. When Ed-monds briefly went on strike at the BBC last year in a dispute over money, Evans of-fered to take over Noel's House Party. He then announced on his radio show that the programme would be "axed by Christmas".

A BBC spokeswoman denied yesterday that the decision was based on poor audiences. "This isn't about ratings. It's about moving for-ward with fresh ideas and a fresh format," she said. "It's a totally, genuinely joint mutual decision by the BBC and Noel that they want to try some-thing different." She added that the present run of the entertainment series had always been due to end on March 20, the date on which the final pro-

gramme will be aired. Edmonds said: When we sat down to think about the series that had been commissioned for autumn it became clear that we had lots of great ideas but they didn't fit into

That seemed like the perfect point for us to say goodbye to House Party and start planning a new show to be unveiled next year."



Madonna after the awards ceremony: her song began life as British flower-power



Dancing to his tune: Dave Curtiss was working for a laundry company in Acton

Pop success is not quite at the speed of light

DAVE CURTISS was asleep at his West London flat when a song he wrote almost 30 years ago was hailed among this year's best in Los Angeles. He feels a bit mellower about the

music scene these days.

A year ago he was working for a laundry in Acton when he learnt that Madonna was recording a version of his Ray of Light. His income from the recording enabled him to give up the laundry job. Now the song has won a coveted Grammy as Best Dance Recording,

and he is writing again.
"I'm absolutely delighted," he said. "I'd forgotten that the Grammys were even happening until I got a phone call this

The song was originally called Sepheryn and was recorded by his flower-power act Curtiss Maldoon, who released an eponymously titled late musical partner Clive Maldoon, Maidoon's niece Christine Leach, a member of the band Baby Fox, rediscovered at the American music industhe song and worked on it with the British producer William Orbit. It remained unreleased but Orbit played a rough ver-

Of Light, became the title track and has sold about 10 million.
"I've had reasonable eating money for the past year." Mr Curtiss said. "It's allowed me to keep alive, decorate the flat and buy some recording equipment. But the big stuff comes

sion to Madonna as he

worked on her last album. She

loved it and the song, now Ray

through next month. "I thought 'lf God wants me to be a songwriter so I started again. Our old album should come out again any day now and I've got a single that people are interested in." The single is a ballad and "more mellow than the songs I

was writing back then". He added: "Things change." Madonna won four awards

try's awards, including Best Pop Album, Best Dance Recording and Best Short Form Music Video. She opened the show in a kimono, then stripped to a vest-top to reveal muscles from a strict gym regime as she prepares for a world tour.

Lauryn Hill set a record for a female by winning five awards, beating the total set by Carole King 28 years ago. Ms Hill, 23, a soul singer and rapper who is also a member of the Fugees, won Album Of The Year for The Miseducation Of Lauryn Hill and Best Newcomer.

Eric Clapton took his 12th Grammy award of the 1990s. for Best Male Pop Vocal Performance on his song My Fa-

Pair's fire-raising was farcical

By SHIRLEY ENGLISH

A LONDONER who had been hired to burn down a failing lace factory in a Scottish village was caught because locals were surprised to see a black man in their communi-

ty, a court was told yesterday. Residents of Newmilns, Ayrshire, reported a suspicious looking stranger to police be-fore any crime had taken place. The choice of fire-raiser was one of the blunders that led to the rapid arrest of Terry Dixon and the man who hired him, Mauro Weingarten.

Depute Fiscal Murdoch MacTaggart, for the prosecu-tion, told Kilmarnock Sheriff Court yesterday that Dixon, 32, had been hired by Weingarten, 45, managing director of MW Wilson (Lace Ltd), for £1,000 to burn down his factory, which was on a two-day week. Local people were suspi-cious when they saw him driv-ing around, last February. Mr

MacTaggart said.

Weingarten's attempt to get rid of the factory was farcical. The factory boss, from Glas-gow, not only paid for Dixon's flight and hire-car by credit fork-lift truck." Dixon was arrested as he card, making the transaction easy for police to trace, but also handed over a wad of

cash and was spotted preparing the premises for the blaze. Dixon did no better. He started the blaze under a sprin-kler system. "The police arrived when he was still in the premises and spoke to his girlfriend outside. They heard

banging and crashing inside the factory. This turned out to be damage being done by a

left the building with fuel containers. Damage was estimated at £30,000 to the building, stock and machinery. Yesterday, both men admitted fireraising and causing criminal damage. Their pleas of not guilty to conspiracy to defraud an insurance company were accepted. They were freed on bail pending sentencing.

Computer game pirate was 11 By PAUL WILKINSON

INVESTIGATORS pursuing the source of pirate computer games pouring onto the market were stunned to find an 11-year-old schoolboy was one of the

brains behind the operation. The child was working from his own bedroom, using equipment bought by his wealthy parents to help him get to grips with the new world of information technology. When industry watchdogs mounted a raid, they found 200 computer disks containing illegally copied material with an

estimated retail value of £10,000. The boy is believed to be the youngest

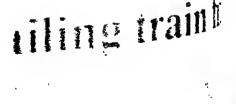
counterfeiter in a black market said to be worth £3 billion a year. Using state-of-theart computer hardware, he was making counterfeit copies of popular video games and selling them to friends at the private boarding school where he is a day-boy at up to a fifth of the shop price.

The inspectors were unable to say how many fake discs he had created, but they know he had been operating for more than two months. His unsuspecting parents were horrified to discover what their son had been up to at their home in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, and gave their

assurance that it would not happen again.
After an investigation by officials from

the European Leisure Software Publishers Association, the boy's equipment, worth several thousand pounds, was forfeited to the authorities. Because of his

age, the association decided against a prosecution and declined to identify him. However, yesterday it issued a stern warning to others about the seriousness of such offences. Terry Anslow, the chief investigator with the association's crime unit, said: "We operate a no-tolerance' policy towards pirates and we will always push for the maximum penalty for each offence. Piracy is a direct threat to the jobs and livelihoods of those involved in a legit-



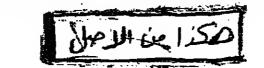
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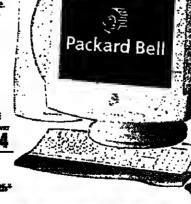
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THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

GALTUR was a village without children yesterday. Only a handful of adult holidaymakers remained, awaiting evacuation, along with hardy locals reluctant to leave their bruised homes. Orange-suited rescue workers, staggering with fatigue, pushed long poles deep into the snow, probing

for human contact. Barely a few weeks ago half-term for English and German schoolchildren — the side streets were littered with playigloos, and snowball fights were part of the daily routine. Galtūr Hamelin after the Pied Piper. cheated of his rat-killing commission, disappeared into the mountains with the children of the town.

It was an avalanche racing down an angry mountain that swallowed Galtur's children and those of its guests. Three small wooden coffins laid to one side in the barracks at Landeck - the base of the rescue operations - reminding anyone who cared to look (and not many did) that children were among the chief victims of what has been called the

White Death. The figures released by the rescue team are fuzzy: 31 bodies have been found, 27 in Galtür, four on the outskirts in a hamlet called Valzur. Perhaps a dozen were children. At least four child deaths have been confirmed and children are among the seven people

still reported missing. Alexandra Frick and her boyfriend looked dazed as they stepped out of an army helicopter yesterday: they had started a ski holiday and ended up by digging out a child from under a concrete stairwell. The stairs saved the child, protecting it from the torrent of snow. For most of the dead children, the concrete was a killer, crushing them with the immense force

of the snow behind it. "in some way the little

> LINKS http://www.tirol.gv.et/bb-landeck corpses we scratched out of the snowdrift were easier to bear than those under the rubble of masonry, all mangled and broken," said Rudolf Pülacher, a rescue worker.

Doctors, at first polite then betraying their frayed nerves, explain in stomach-curdling detail what happens when an avalanche travelling at almost 200mph hits a human. "You can compare it with a detonated bomb," said Dr Peter Kernetzhofer. "The air pressure wrecks inner organs. Lungs, stomach, liver and kidneys are shredded. Fine, concentrated snow and dust particles, which can be as sharp as glass, penetrate every opening in the human body causing massive damage." A child,

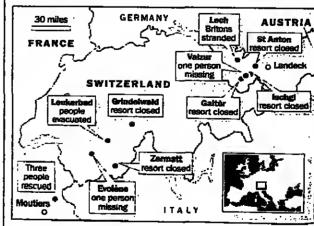
than an adult. The arithmetic of Galtur is as follows: it took 15 seconds for the avalanche to cover 400 yards; a person buried under the snow has IS minutes to survive before suffocating; it took the first rescue team 15 hours to arrive on the scene.

naturally, has less resistance

Most of the surviving but injured children were hit by flying tiles and masonry and have suffered broken bones. Those buried underneath the snow for a long period stood little chance. One evacuated mother, completely dis-

traught, had lost two sons. Galtur, most people seem to agree, is finished as a tourist location. Albert Einstein holidayed there and Ernest Hemingway was so charmed by the little town that in 1927 he wrote a story called The Mountain Idyll. Now Galtur has

lost its children and its future. Roads were being cleared yesterday as rescue teams . tried to exploit the sunny weather. The forecast is that the weather could close in again and so there was a scramble to complete the evacuation of Galtur and move to neighbouring Ischgl, where there is also an avalanche threat. Throughout the Alps but particularly in Switzerland, Germany and Austria -150.000 people are trapped in snowbound villages.



'Remarkable' survival of boy aided by cold

By Adrian Lee

THE survival of a four-yearold boy buried beneath an avalanche for 100 minutes was "utterly remarkable", an expert in the treatment of hypothermia said yesterday.

He probably lived because of his age, said Alan Armstrong, a consultant in the accident and emergency department at the University Hospital Aintree in Liverpool

The cold started a reaction, slowing the child's metabolism to the point where his body and brain required virtually no oxygen. According to reports from Austria, the boy was clinically dead when he was discovered by a sniffer dog late on Wednesday.

"Young people slow down much more rapidly because their body surface to weight is greater," said Mr Armstrong.
"It means they can go for

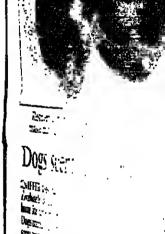
long periods without breathing without adverse effect. Even so this is utterly remark-

This is a classical case the whole body just slows right down. The heart will cither beat extremely slowly perhaps three times a minute or stop completely."

With any long exposure to cold there was a real risk of brain damage, said Mr Arm-strong, making the Austrian boy's apparent complete recov-ery all the more surprising.



saves tri



COM PERSON

Const.



country since the weekend—
fears for their survival growing as successive rescue attempts were abandoned because of bad weather.

The three huddled together in a makeshift igloo they built on after becoming lost in a blizzard. Rescuers who plucked ed Christophe Palichleb and brothers Olivier and Philippe Bourgues to safety in a helicopte that the three were in good condition after their ordeal in which they had endured arctic conditions at 10,000ft.

Emergency services found the hikers after they used a mobile phone to call local gendarmes yesterday. Working closely with France Télécom, rescuers were able to pinpoint the men's location, but efforts

Mobile phone saves trio in 'Alpine ordeal

THREE French hikers stranded for ten days in sub-zero temperatures in the French Alps were discovered alive and well yesterday thanks to a mobile

Their fate has gripped the country since the weekend — fears for their survival grow-

the men's location, but efforts to reach them were hampered by high winds and fog.

The hikers, who ran out of food five days before their rescue, were flown to hospital in Moutiers where doctors pronounced them "weak, but safe and sound. They are being treated for hypothermia and

Fear of running down the battery in their phone prevented the hikers from calling more than four times. They

Helicopter finds stranded hikers after final call for help, writes Susan Bell

first contacted rescue services on Saturday, made two fur-ther calls on Sunday and wait-ed until Tuesday before making their final plea for help.

"Each time they went out-side to telephone, the tempera-ture inside their shelter dropped dramatically, explaining why they preferred to stay put," said Captain Gérard Val-ich of the rescue services, who paid tribute to the three men's "excellent" organisation and survival techniques.

Their igloo was so well constructed that they were insulated against the wind." he said. Temperatures inside the shelter would have been between zero and two degrees. compared with -15C to -20C outside, a doctor said yesterday.

an inquiry into its cause.

A helicopter equipped with a heat-seeking device spotted the hikers early yesterday morning. The men had come out of their igloo as the weather had cleared and they had decided that one of them should attempt to ski down the mountain to find help, a dangerous



One of the three hikers is helped to his feet by rescuers after surviving for ten days in sub-zero temperatures

Britons count the cost of disaster

By Adrian Lee AND CLAUDIA JOSEPH

HUNDREDS of Britans who have spent up to six days stranded by avalanches and heavy snowfalls were yesterday joining the exodus from Tyrolean ski resons.

Carol Evelegh, 42, a preparatory school head teacher from Clapham, southwest London, said: "Because the weather has been so bad we have been stuck in our hotel for the

past five days."

She estimated that the additional days in their Lech hotel, food and other expenses would total more than £2,000 for her family of four, "There is nothing we can do." she

Kenneth McKenzie, a Lon don solicitor, paid £360 for his family and a friend to leave Lech by helicopter yesterday. They were forced to leave their luggage behind.

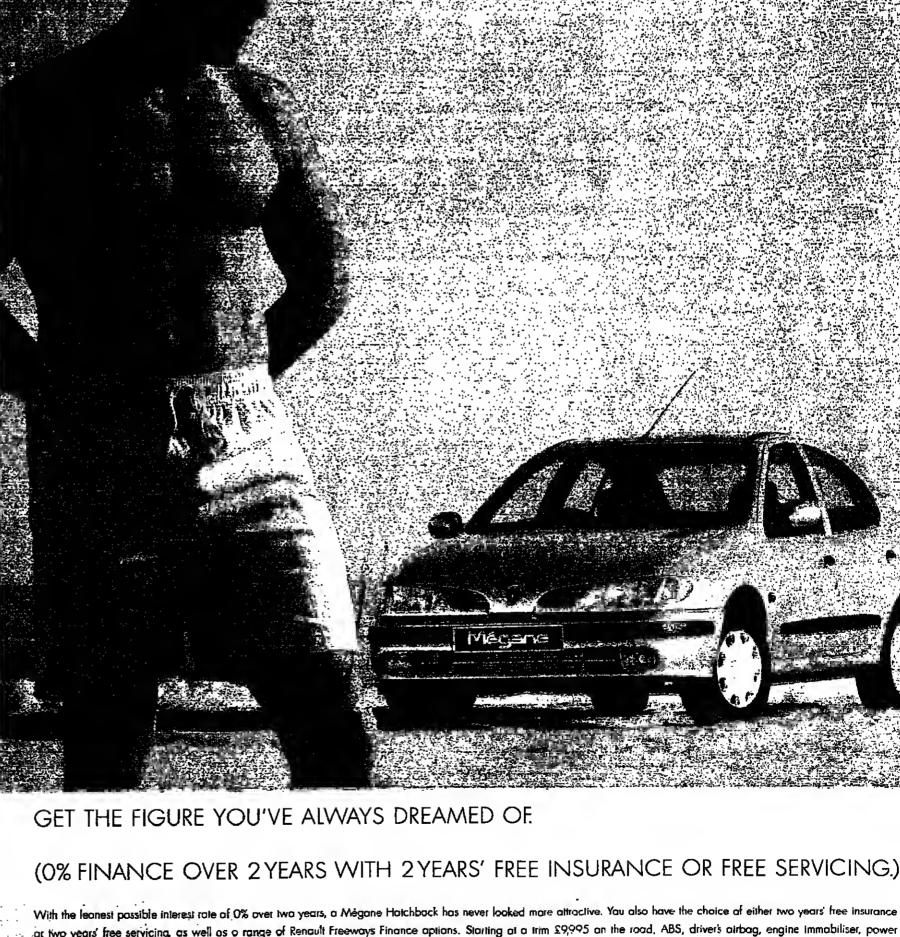
The Association of British Insurers said that most holiday policies would not cover extra time spent in resorts because of poor weather or avalanches.



Rescuers congratulate each other lying in the makeshift igloo which saved three hikers lives

Dogs scent out survivors

"NIFFER dogs have proved rivaluable in the desperate hunt for survivors in Galtur. Does trained to detect human scent are responsible for hundreds of rescues each year (Christine Middap writes). The dogs are attached to police forces, search and rescue organisations and defence forces worldwide and are called out in most big searches for humans. Dogs have about 222 million scent receptors in their noses, compared with about five million in humans. A Scotland Yard spokesman said: "The dogs never cease to amaze us in what they can do. Given the right circumstance, a track can be followed up to 24 hours after if was laid by a human." The main breeds used include German shepherds, labradors and springer spaniels.



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Suspects get civil rights help

The search is on for a barrister who will work unpaid to sue the

Daily Mail, reports Frances Gibb

THE human rights group Lib-erty is trying to find a lawyer who will help the youths suspected of murdering Stephen Lawrence to sue the Daily

The group has approached four of the big City law firms, including Clifford Chance, to see if any of them would take the case without charge as part their pro bono work.

The newspaper published photographs of the five youths in May 1997 under the headline "Murderers". It declared: 'The Mail accuses these men of killing. If we are wrong, let them sue us."

So far none of the firms has agreed to take on the action. which could lead to a trial lasting up to a year. However, a partner with Clifford Chance made informal inquiries around the Temple to see if any barrister would be willing to take on the brief.

Liberty took up the case after hearing the mothers of the suspects say that their sons were innocent but could not clear their names because they could not afford to litigate.

John Wadham, the director of Liberty, said: "We wanted to find a lawyer to act so that there was no impediment to the truth being aired in court.

"We took the view that because we have a pro bono panel, we should look for lawyers who might take this up. He said that it was an issue of principle involving access to justice. Legal aid was not available for defamation actions so the only way the youths and their families or ild seek to clear their names was if lawyers did the work free.

Liberty, which takes up cases itself, could not do so on this occasion because last year it gave its human rights award to Doreen and Neville Lawrence "for their courage and determination in fighting for the truth". Mr Wadham said. John Potts, a partner with

Clifford Chance, said he had been approached by Liberty and he had raised the ethical issues of the case with barristers. "Whatever you may think about them, they have every right to have a go, and I do think somebody should take the case for them," he said. But his firm had built up its pro bono practice by doing work for defendants rather than taking actions for plaintiffs.

One barrister who was ap-proached said: "I don't think anyone would want to do a year-long trial on a pro bono basis. Apart from anything else. I wouldn't want a brick through my window."

Even if a law firm and barrister were found, there is the question of whether the youths would be ready to face tough questioning as witnesses. But the burden of proof would be on the Mail to justify that what it said was true.

Leading article and



Neville Lawrence and Jack Straw at the vandalised memorial plaque

Met given seven days to agree on payout

THE family of Stephen Lawrence yesterday gave Sir Paul Condon a week to respond to their claim for negligence against the Metropol-itan Police. Yesterday Imran Khan, the family's solicitor, declined to reveal the sum being sought but the family could hope to win about £50,000 for the trama they suffered as a result of the incompetent police investigation.

The Lawrence inquiry report by Sir William Macoherson of Cluny condemned the investigation and the way in which Stephen's parents were treated as "unprofessional, insens and abysmal".

Mr Khan said: "I will be writing to the Commissioner asking him to give compensation to the family for the way in which they have been treated during the course of this incompetent and grossly negligent murder investigation. If they do not respond satisfactorily I am pre-pared to give them seven days and after that we will then take the matter to court.

"It has got nothing to do with money, but the family are entitled to do that. We awaited the outcome of this report to see how far this report went. It has gone a long way and it clearly indicates that there was gross negligence and incompetence fuelled by racism."

Mr Khan said he hoped that the Commissioner would settle the claim without delay but

that in the past the police had always been very defensive. "I bope they won't follow in those footsteps. I hope they will consider that it is right and just that Mr and Mrs Lawrence de-

serve compensation for what they have been through. I hope it will be an easy process. History tells me that it may not be."

Police sources suggested was unlikely that Sir Pawould take any action before receiving formal notification of the claim. It is equally united the Meeting to the claim of the claim. likely, however, that the Met would contest the case in court. The family has the choice of suing individual officers, many of whom are critical heavily in the inquiry met. cised heavily in the inquiry re-port, or Sir Paul as head of the

force, or both.
Police enjoyed blanket immunity from civil claims for negligence until a ruling by the European Court of Human Rights last year. Twenty judges of the Strasbourg court public had the right to hold police to account for negligence in adversarial proceed ines. The decision came after the family of a man shot dead by a teacher who had become obsessed with his son charlenged an Appeal Court ruling that they could not sue police for their alleged failure to

the report will make things The Lawrences are also conharder in the short term it will sidering a civil action against the five men suspected of kill-ing Stephen. This is an option make things better in the future. "I think it will eventually be good for policing. Generalthat they put on hold for the ly. police officers join up to do duration of the Macpherson inquiry.

Officers 'may ignore crimes by minorities'

By Adam Fresco

large proportion of the blame. But so does the criminal jus-

tice system. Even if officers

had done everything properly, they are still working with one hand tied behind their back."

He has not noticed a differ-

ent attitude from the public. "I

think they realise that not all

police officers are racist. It is

happening a lot less. As we deal with people as partners in

the community rather than suspects or victims, when peo-

ple are often at their worst,

He believes that although

things will get even better."

SERGEANT Ian Clark fears was poorly run so we bear a that police officers may now ig-nore petty crime by ethnic minoribes to avoid the risk of being accused of racism. The community officer said the ried about the impact of the

Lawrence case on their work. As he walked the streets of East London yesterday, Ser-geant Clark, 33, an officer for 14 years, said: There is a real danger that officers will ignore some minor crime or not stop a black person they suspect of doing something for fear of being falsely accused. They may think it is not worth the aggravation that comes with a complaint, whether it is justified or not. There will then be an inquiry and a question mark

over that officer's integrity. "The fear of that gives the criminal an extra string to their bow to argue against whatever it is they have been accused of, to claim they have been racially abused. There are occasions when we get to an incident, are not sure what has happened and everyone is a potendal suspect. If you are too careful you may end up not doing something we would otherwise have done."

Sergeant Clark, originally from Aberdeen, is stationed at Ilford, which has a high pro-portion of people from ethnic

Police join up to do good, but they are worried they will make a mistake and be a scapegoat³

minorities. He said that officers accepted that changes had to be made to make things better, but not all accepted that every change was for the best The prospect of integrity testing, using undercover officers to catch racist colleagues, was a worry to many. "It may mean people are engineered into a situation where they make a mistake. The good ones are worried they will make an honest mistake and be made a scapegoat.

"In a year's time, there is going to be legislation three inches thick and no one will be able to remember all of it and mistakes will be made. The Commissioner needs to have something in place to deal with the bad apples but that does not alienate the good ones. Most officers are not happy with the report. The feeling is that the outcome was decided before it was finished. From what I have read and heard. the police were not able to give

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a full account of themselves. "By all accounts, the police investigation into the murder



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Vietnand cycle challenge

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Fears grow of Dome boycott by churches

Evidence reveals divide, report Mark Henderson and Ruth Gledhill

IT WAS NO EASIER LAST TIME

At the turn of this millennium. Aelfric, Archbishop of Canterbury, was embroiled in a battle between the forces of spirituality and secularism not unlike that faced by Dr Car-

ey. Aelfric detested the forces of secularism in the Church

and expelled the secular clergy from his cathedral, install-

ing monks instead. He disparaged those who read a little

Latin and "fancied themselves great scholars". The Anglo-

Saxon Chronicle of 995 said that the new archbishop was "a

very wise man, so that there was no sager man in England". The country was beset by Viking invasions, which were

seen as a portent of apocalypse. The Vikings preyed on the weakness of King Aethelred II (whose nickname, Unraed,

means "badly advised", not "the unready"). The raids were also considered divine punishment for Aethebred having as-

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle describes it as a time of

"much evil by burning and by manslaying". On the other hand, there was oo Millennium Dome to worry about.

sumed the throne when his half-brother was murdered.

A CHURCH boycott of new year celebrations at the Millennium Dome moved closer yesterday as organisers of the cele-brations failed to support the Culture Secretary's guarantee that religion would be at the

centre of the event. Chris Smith's promise of a Church-sponsored "Millennium Moment" in the build-up to midnight was not repeated by the New Millennium Experience Company or Lord Fal-coner of Thoroton, the government minister in charge of the Dome, in their evidence to the Commons Culture Select Com-

Robert Ayling, chairman of the New Millennium Experience Company (NMEC), would confirm only that the organisation was "formulating proposals" for "an event that is inclusive for everyone". Lord Falconer said a religious element would be "appropriate" but he could not say what form it

David Faber, a Conservative member of the select committee, said the men's position was clearly "at odds" with Mr Smith's promise to the committee on Wednesday.

The Archbishop of Canterbury. Dr George Carey, who has said he may boycott the Dome if there is no Christian prayer, said after yesterday's evidence that his threat still stood. "We are now in discussion. We will see where we are minds on what they are going to do." The archbishop has insisted that the ceremony be anchored in the incarnation of Christ and said that "unless there is some Christian component in the celebration. I won't

be there Cardinal Basil Hume said yesterday that he would celebrate new year in Westminster Cathedral if religion were side-lined in the Dome. "At mid-night on December 31 it would be right to be at prayer." he

told BBC Radio 4's Today. Even Mr Smith's offer did not go far enough, he said, as the Millennium Moment — in which candles will be lit and

when they have made up their an ecumenical "affirmation" read for a minute's reflection - would not mention God or Jesus and would take place well before midnight.

Cardinal Hume suggested that, instead, Dr Carey should read a short prayer in the five minutes before midnight. "All l am asking for is about a minute-and-a-half. Midnight is a very significant time and I think minds and hearts should be raised into the pres-

ence of God." Lord Falconer, making his first appearance before the select committee since replacing Peter Mandelson as the Government's shareholder in NMEC, distanced himself

from his predecessor's hands on style. He paid tribute to Mr Mandelson but said: "I regard my role as shareholder not as micromanaging what is going on in the company. If there is something seriously wrong 1 would say so but I don't think it is appropriate for me to start fiddling about with everything."

Critics had accused Mr Mandelson, the former Trade and Industry Secretary, of being a "minister for meddling" in the Dome. Insiders at the Millennium Commission and NMEC said privately that the working atmosphere had become much more relaxed since Mr Mandelson's resignation in December.

Jennie Page, chief executive of NMEC, indicated yesterday that the Dome may remain open into 2001 if there was sufficient demand. "To get to the end of 2000 and still have extra demand we have not satisfied would be to suggest it was not just a fantastic but an extraordinary success," she said. "If that were to happen, we would have to talk about whether a short-term extension would have to be made."

Zones could change during the year if their content proved unpopular or their design im-practical, she said, "We will keep a close eye on how they out lights or helmets. work and If it looks like there are areas that need refreshing we will do it."





Jayne and Jodie Scrivens: they had no lights or helmets when they were struck by a car while cycling in the dark

Twins died defying orders not to cycle in the dark

By RACHAEL CROFTS

IDENTICAL twin sisters who died in a road accident had disobeyed their father's instructions about riding their bicycles after dark, an inquest was told yesterday. Jodie and Jayne Scrivens, 13, were hit by a car as they cycled home with-

Raymond Scrivens said that the twins left home in Bushbury, Wolverhampton,

oo the evening of September Il last year, saying they were going out on a nearby road oo their mountain hicycles. He told them to be back by 8pm and not to visit a friend at a caravan site because it was getting dark. In a statement read to the inquest, be said he be-came worried when they had oot returned by 8.30pm and went out to look for them. He drove past the scene of an accident at Featherstone and went to the caravan site, where the girls friend, Natalie Brown, lied that she had not seen

Mr Scrivens returned to the scene of the accident. He said: "I began to fear it was the girls. I could not stop shaking. A police officer said two girls oo pedal cycles were involved. The officer then took me up to the scene of the accident. When I got there, I knew immediately it was the girls."

The inquest at Cannock, Staffordshire, was told that Jodie was pronounced dead at the scene after suffering a fractured skull and multiple inju-

Raymond Scrivens:

search for daughters tal from head and chest inju-

Miss Brown wept as she told how she had lied to protect the girls. She had said she had not seen them since 6pm because she did not want to get them into trouble.

Andrew Medlicote, a witness to the collision, said that his Vauxhall Corsa was overtaken by a VW Passat "in a right and proper manner' but, as the vehicle passed him, he caught sight of a reflector and realised the other driver

driver brake and then speed off. He gave chase but lost the car on a housing estate, the inquest heard.

census ich ask: how much do

vou earn's

freehorn of

The driver of the Passat, Anthony Barrs, a car salesroom manager from Bushbury. Wolverhampton, later returned to the scene.

He told police that his primary concern was to reach a telephone and his home was two minutes away: "I rang the ambulance service and requested assistance. I told her I had hit something and that I was going back to the scene

ped at a puh on his way home from work and had drunk ly to 14 pints of lager. A breath test at the roadside proved negative. He said he had a mobile phone with him but had not used it because he didn't know where it was in the car.

John James, the South Staffordshire Deputy Corooer, recorded a verdict of accidental

After the inquest a police spokesman said that Mr Barrs had been charged with failing to stop at the scene of







Census to ask: how much do you earn?

New questions will pinpoint poorest areas, reports Alexandra Frean

ons to disclose their annual income in the next official census, a White Paper is expected

efying orde in the dark sus, a White Paper is expected to announce next week.

A new 20-page census form, containing more personal questions than before, will for the first time ask people whether they earn less or more than £25,000. Those earning less will be asked which of several income brackets they fall into

income brackets they fall into. Although ministers are aware that not everybody can be expected to answer truthful-ly, they believe that it will provide valuable information about the whereabouts of the nation's most deprived areas.

This is not about finding out where the fat cats are. It is more to do with looking at the lower end of the income scale as one way of measuring social exclusion," the Office for National Statistics said.

Because census confidentiality is protected by legislation, it should - in theory at least be impossible for information about named individuals to be passed to other government agencies, such as Inland Pevenue. A question on income is nev-

ertheless risky. In trials two years ago, involving 74,000 households in England and Wales, far fewer forms were returned from areas where the income question was included than from those where it was

The income question is likely to be tested again in the Census Rehearsal on April 25, which will involve 126,000 households in seven local au-thorities in England, Wales

http://www.cadillaceurope.com

THE Government wants Brit- and Scotland. If the trials are successful, it will be included in the new national form to be issued in 2001.

Other new questions inctude asking people their reti-gion for the first time since 1851, asking if they care for a sick or dependent family member or friend, and requesting details about their state of

in another break with tradi-tion, the Government announced yesterday that the huge job of processing more than 30 million census forms in 2001 has been awarded so the American company Lock-head Martin, better known as a defence contractor. The contract is worth 550 million and is the first time that the job has been awarded to a private con-

Art Johnson of Lockhead Martin, which is also contract-ed to run the American census in 2000, said that the company had developed new scanning and optical-recognition software to enable the forms to be processed by computer for the first time. Previously, each form had to be individually read and the information entered onto computer by hand.

Forms will be available in English and Welsh and translations of the questions will be available on separate sheets in 20 languages. The information will be

stored on digital tape and the forms destroyed after they have been processed - another first. This is largely an econ-omy measure: the 1991 paper-work occupies 19 miles of 12ft high shelf space.



Paws for thought: two of the bull terriers take a break from their exertions, while Strapper the Jack Russell prepares to show what he can do



Wellard from EastEnders makes a play for Gill Raddings

Dogs take the lead in park performance

BY ROBIN YOUNG

A SELECTION of likely looking Crufts contenders went on parade in London vesterday to demonstrate that the annual dog show is about more than aristocratic pedigree. It also emphasises training and good behaviour.

Unfortunately, the latter seemed to be in short supply. A quartet of bull terriers - Alice, Tallis, Rupert and Teddy described as "miniature" but quite large enough, had to be taken out of Kennel Club headquarters in a state of over-excitement and allowed to romp off their high spirits by belting round Green Park. A pair of highly refined bor-zois, Adenov and Alage, could not bear to be parted from each other. "They are brother

and sister and he howls like a

mad thing if she is taken even a couple of yards away." Sue Simon, their rueful owner, said. She added: "We will have to take the lift down. We don't do stairs."

Bailey, a sturdy dogue de Bordeaux called on to perform for photographers, consistently sauntered off in the opposite direction.

However Gill Raddings and Julie Tottman of the Stunt Dogs Agency were on hand to prove that some dogs can be taught to act well enough to earn their owners a reasonable living,
They had taken along

Wellard, currently starring in EastEnders; Saracen, a longhaired German shepherd that is now Nick Berry's dog in Harbour Lights, having been thrown out as an eight-monthold by a family who found it impossible to cope with; and Strapper, a versatile little terrier with a string of screen cred-

its as long as a borzoi's nose.
"They can do a lot of useful tricks." Ms Raddings said.
"like rolling over, walking on their hind legs or playing

For the photographers' pleasure, Ms Tournan showed off the dogs' abilities by putting the compliable Strapper around her neck, where he proceeded to give a passable impression of a fox fur. After that, the dogs made a collective decision that it was time for walkies.

Crufts 1999 is at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, from March II to 14.

Computer blamed for gun payout delays

By Richard Ford Home Correspondent

COMPUTER breakdowns and poorly designed claim forms have caused serious delays in the payment of compensation to people forced to sur render their handguns.

Many owners required to hand over weapons because of the ban imposed after the Dunblane massacre are still awaiting compensation, according

no a report published by the National Audit Office today.

The government spending watchdog found that there were weaknesses in the compensation system that made ensation system that made checking difficult. Its report says that technical experts should have been consulted before the development of a computer system to deal with

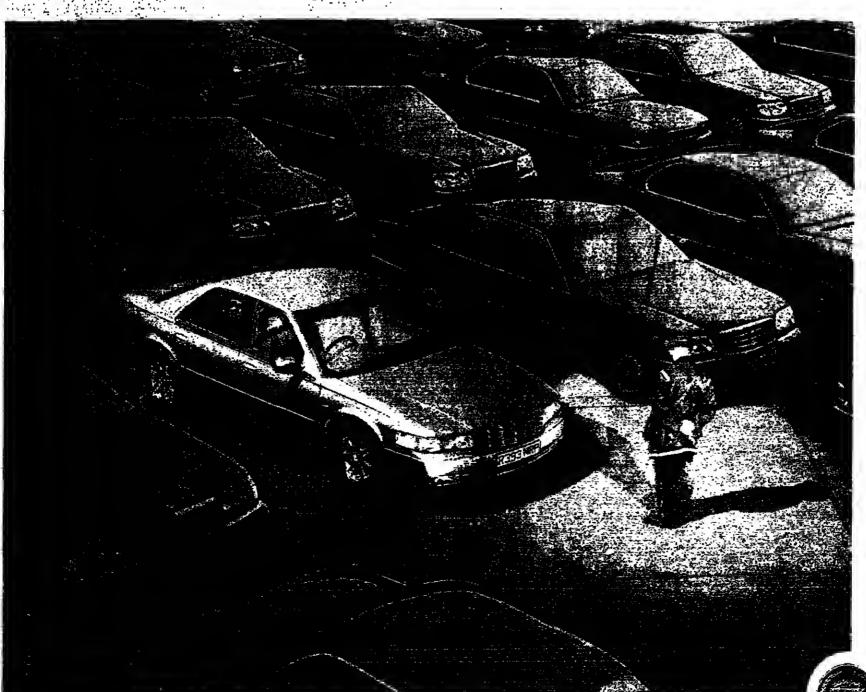
The Home Office system had been brought into operation while faults were still occurring. During the first months that claims were being assessed, there had been "numerous and unpredictable" systems failures and the system had not been running properly unol December 1997. six months after guns had first been surrendered.

Handgun ownership was banned in 1997, leading to the biggest surrender of legally held firearms in the United Kingdom. Large-calibre weapons had to be handed in by the end of September 1997, and small-calibre guns by the end of February 1998.

The report noted that on the limited information available. it now appeared that many of the illegal weapons had been replaced by other types of legal weapons, such as muzzleloading pistols, rifles or shot-

The report says that more than 162,000 hanguns have been handed in, 25,000 fewer than the original estimated by Home Officials. By the end of last October, the Home Office had paid out £61 million

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Swap my hotel for your semi?



The 13-bedroom Caledonian Hotel in peaceful Dunoon, population 6,500, could go for £150,000 to pay for a terrace house in frenetic Lewisham, population 243,000, for sale for between £115,000 and £140,000

Jail's food makes porridge palatable

BY SIMON DE BRUXELIFES

NO ONE has escaped frem Swansea's Victorian jail her years. A possible reason emerged yesterday when prison was named one of the best places to eat in the

The newly refitted kitch saw off 50 other entrants the annual contest organ by the city council. Last ni the inmates were dining menu that included chic supreme, beef goulash

asta Italienne. One said: Some people of better here than they do home. I've put on two sto

since I came in." The jail won the gold award despite a hudget of £1.41 per prisoner per day. Fresh produce is guaranteed by the pris-on farm; buying is confined to what is cheap in the priket that day. Christine Steele, leader of

the team that inspected the 50 establishments, said: "They may have a captive clientele but the food is top notch." Gary Deighton, the Gover-nor, said: "I'm delighted we're rated as a great place to eat but there's no chance of booking a table here. Every seat is reserved for our regulars."

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Hotelier quits Scottish peace for London terrace, report Claudia Joseph and Michael Horsnell

WITH its beautiful lochs, rocky islands and golf courses, the remote Scottish countryside of Argyllshire seemed the ideal place to retire.

But after only 18 months in the small tranquil townof Dunoon, on the Clyde, Iain Campbell has decided that he prefers the busy streets of the South London borough of

Now he is trying to swap his 13-bedroom, 18th-century Cale-donian Flotel for a three-bedroom Victorian terrace house back in the capital.

Mr Campbell, 58, who left his home town of Glasgow in the Sixties, said yesterday: "I have had several calls already.

"I know I wasn't the only lunatic in London to have dreamed of living in God's country, with the peace and quiet and tranquillity, the: fresh air and howling gales.

I'm a rock'n roller. It may be the gem of Scotland but it's not for me. Lewisham's a terrific

Mr Campbell, who worked as an engineering technician in the welding shop at Lewisham College before he injured his arm and decided to retire, is currently based in one of Britain's sparsest areas, which has 3,000 miles of coast-

There are only 91,000 residents, including Lord At-tenborough, Frances Shand-Kidd and Emma Thompson, living in the Argyll and Bute area of Scotland, which covers more than 7.000 square kilo-

The 35 square kilometres of

But I miss the buzz of the city.

line, the same as France.

with 179 violent crimes in Lewisham and ISO burglaries.

Mr Campbell, who was once a member of The Big Six house band at the Star Club in Hamburg and played bass with Chuck Berry, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins, paid £90,000 for the Caledonian metres. Hotel and, after renovating it

Lewisham is home to 243,000. The crime rate, too, differs. Dunoon, population 6,500, had only three assaults and no bur-

of the three-bedroom, Victorian terrace house that Mr Campbell hopes to acquire: These properties go for be-tween £115,000 and £140,000. depending on the area. Lewisham has become a popular and trendy area over the past 18 months.

Iain Campbell: misses

the buzz of Lewisham

glary in January, compared

and hiring a manager, values

a Lewisham estate agent, said

Tony Ravenscroft, of Acorn.

it at £150,000.

Mr Campbell, who claims to be the inspiration for Gerry Rafferty's hit Baker Street, misses his daughter Siobhan, 19, a student at Camberwell College, his former partner Kate and a host of friends.

"I moved back as a kind of nostalgia thing. The country-side is beautiful round here. Loch Lomond is only a halfhour drive away. There are also the golf courses, which are superb. I had friends who were always complaining that there was a shortage of good courses in London.

"But I really miss it down there, the people, the buzz and the way of life. All my maies are in London and I want to go

"I know that I am mad but I have become a Londoner of the southeastern variety."



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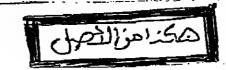
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TIMES I RIDAY TEBRUARY



Room with a view: models wearing designs by Luella Bartley mingle with guests at the show in a Camden flat

Dedicated followers of fashion take a diversion

FASHION editors spent the past two days penetrating parts of the capital that previous London Fashion Weeks failed to reach.

The off-schedule schedule grew by the hour. That made life fraught for native Londoners, let alone foreigners. "Where or what exactly is Flat 2?" asked one perplexed Italian journalist, scuttling off to invest in a creet man.

invest in a street map.

The flat in question was in deepest Camden and belonged to Steve Mackey, of the pop band Pulp. He had lent it to his friend Luella Bartley for her to present her collection of tongue-in-check town and country clothes. Then it was east to Shoreditch to watch Shelley Fox's strangely beautiful catwalk debut.

Even finding details about

the shows was a challenge. Chinese whispers rustled through the front row of the first show each morning. By day three, if someone had started a rumour that the Prince of Wales had designed a neo-punk range, there would have been a flurry of cashmere outside Buckingham Palace.

The off-schedule shows have



Guided by Chinese whispers and a street map, Lisa Armstrong boldly goes to the off-schedule shows that challenge the organisational skills, as well as the senses, of the world's fashion editors

put the British Fashion Council, which organises the 50 official shows and sponsorship, in a quandary. We don't know whether we're supposed to acknowledge that they're happening or not," Brian Godber, of the council, said. For instance, should the free taxis provided for journalists by the sponsor Vidal Sassooo take them to the off-schedule Copperwheat Bhundell show,

perwheat Blundell show, sponsored by the rival haircare company L'Oreal?

Money is the heart of the problem. It costs £10,000 to £30,000 to stage a show in the official venue at the Natural History Museum in South Kensington. (Some designers have been kicked off the official schedule for not paying

their bills.) And with 50 shows

is not room for everyone who would like to be there. The "off-piste" shows have, however, iojected some much-

however, iojected some muchneeded sparkle into proceedings. Dai Rees, whose delicate millinery was previously something of an inside secret, unexpectedly launched into clothing. His elegant collection featured drapes and the tweed and tartan mohair that have been a recurrent theme this week. "I need to branch out if my business is to grow and a show is the fastest route to attracting attention," Rees said. He would bave liked to be

on-schedule but was rejected on the grounds of space. Other designers prefer to be offschedule it adds a touch of edgy credibility, rather like playing off Broadway. be off-off-schedule. Bella Freud, who has long been part of the official set-up. struck out on her own this time with a chic collaboration with the actor John Malkovich. He directed a six-minute film in which the London Underground got a starring role and flashes of Freud's ciothing

were glimpsed.

Teresa Brach, the daughter of an Austrian heiress who has shown off-schedule for the past two seasons, put her collection of sporty-cum-decorative pieces on the Internet. It cost her £5,000 to set up the website and collate a CD-Rom that allow her clothes to be

viewed 24 hours a day.

Are the off-schedule designers any good? Yes and, in some cases, perhaps. Will they sell? Emphatically yes. Bartley has been approached by Saks Fifth Avenue; Fox already sells in Liberty; Brach has had appointments with language brivers all uses?

Japanese buyers all week.
As Calvin Klein said in New York last week: "There's so much talent pouring out of your art and fashion schools all the time, it's incredible."

Style, page 24

Cancer linked to sperm count

By Ian Murray MEDICAL CORRESPOND

Ma:N with a low sperm count have twice the normal risk of developing testicular cancer, a study has found. The researchers do not believe that one condition leads to the other but they think that they are caused by the same unknown factors. The most likely explanation is thought to be chemicals that affected the men while they were in the womb.

Scientists from the Danish National Research Foundation studied the records of all living men born in Denmark between 1916 and 1970. The results, reported in the British Medical Journal, showed that the risk of testicular cancer fell with each child fathered.

Two new iron brews

Scientists have come up with two ways of preventing iron deficiency, which affects nearly four billion people.

American researchers have discovered a way to genetically manipulate crops so that they become several times richer in iron or super-efficient at extracting the mineral from the soil. Canadian scientists have found that providing poor people with iron pots means they and their children grow healthier as the iron dissolves into their food.

Ouch-free plasters

A plaster that can be removed with less pain and damage to the skin has been developed (Nigel Hawkes writes).

It sticks as firmly as ordinary plasters but is removed by first stripping off a backing layer. That exposes the underlying plaster to light, which destroys the adhesiveness and enables it to be removed easily.

The plaster, which will be put on sale by Smith & Nephew in about two years, will be valuable to babies and elderly people, whose skin is fragile.



Casey: at present deputy director of Shelter

Homeless get new ally in Whitehall

BY VALERIE ELLIOTT WHITEHALL EDITOR

THE woman appointed by the Government yesterday to champion the cause of homeless people said that she had first begun working with them after realising she could easily have shared their fate.

Louise Casey, who has now been dubbed the homelessness "czar", had wanted to leave home, in Portsmouth, and gain some independence when she was a youngster, she found a job in a holiday camp, "If I had not found this residential job on Hayling Island I don't know what I would have done," she said.

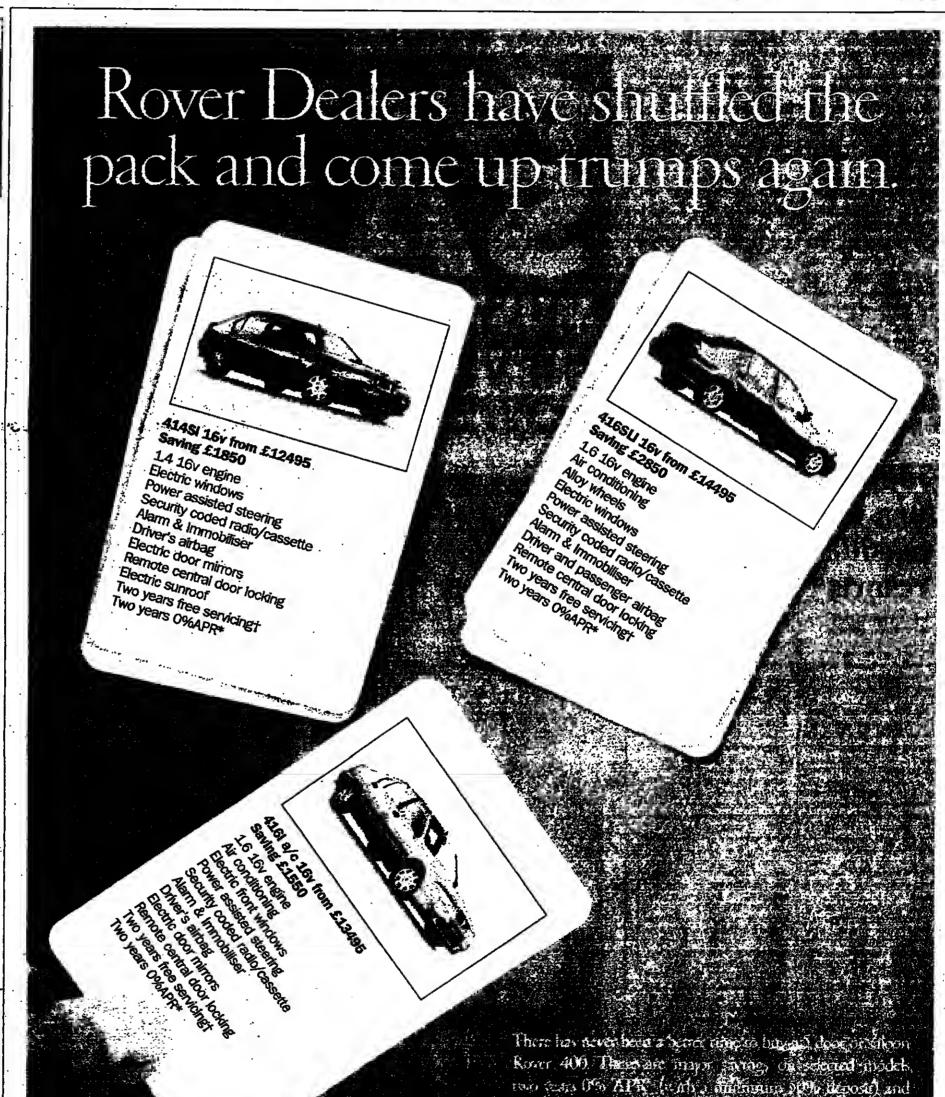
"I sometimes think that is why so many young people to-day end up on the streets. They don't have anywhere to go and residential jobs are not easy to come by. I was bloody lucky and I think that is what has drawn me to work with homeless people."

Her task is to find places to

stay for 400 rough sleepers in Londoo and to be a trouble-shooter in government for the homeless throughout Britain.

Ms Casey, 33, deputy director of the charity Shelter, who begins her new job in May, intends to concentrate on easing the return to the community of servicemen and women, prisoners, and the mentally ill. She said that many peope left institutions and could not cope. "I want to prevent them ending up as rough sleepers."

She is to head a unit in the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, with a budget of £145 million over three years.



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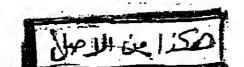
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Labour support falls to lowest since election

Poll shows Tory fortunes recovering in aftermath of genetically modified foods row, writes Peter Riddell

SUPPORT for Labour and satisfaction with the Government have slipped to the lowest levels since the general election after the row over the Govern-ment's handling of the geneti-cally modified foods controver-

sy, according to the latest MORI poll for *The Times*. The poll, undertaken last weekend, shows that support for the Tories has jumped from 24 to 30 per cent since late January, while Labour has slipped five points to 5t per

The Liberal Democrats are unchanged on 14 per cent. But Labour is still higher, and the Tories lower, than their elec-

tion voting shares. However, William Hague's approval rating has dropped, especially among Tory supporters. It is too early to say whether Tory fortunes are at last recovering on a sustained basis, or whether it is just a one-month blip.

Apart from the shift in vot-

ing intentions, the negative points for Labour are an increase in dissatisfaction with the Government's perform-

The balance of those satisfied less dissatisfied is now even at 45 per cent on each side, for the first time since the general election. Similarly, Mr Blair's rating has contin-ued to slip to its lowest level since the election.

However, nearly three fifths of the public (58 per cent) is satisfied with the way he is doing his job as Prime Minister, with a third (34 per cent) dissat-isfied. The net balance of plus 24 points is down from plus 30 points or more for most of last year. However, the ratings of Mr Blair, the Government and Labour are still much higher than for parties in office at the similar stages of pre-

vious Parliaments. The Tories may be solidifying their core support and have picked up among those aged over 55, those living in the South and women, but

who deserted them in 1997. Mr Hague still faces a serious image problem despite the publicity he received from his recent

was previously only equalled

in the Tory years during the

Lawson boom of the late 1980s.

Gordon Brown's approval rat-

ing - 47 per cent sadsfied

against 28 per cent dissatisfied

this time last year, though low-

er than the post-Budget rat-

It is, however, higher than achieved by any of the Con-servative Chancellors between

☐ MORI interviewed a repre-

sentative quota sample of 1,769 adults at 155 sampling

points ocross Britoin between

February 19 and 22. Data

were weighted to match the

profile of the population and voting intention figures ex-clude those who say they would not vote (10 per cent).

are undecided (6 per cent) or

who refuse to name a party (1

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1979 and 1997.

is marginally better than

trip to the USA. Less than a quarter of the public (23 per cent) is satisfied with his performance with more than a half (53 per cent) dissatisfied.

This net balance of minus 30 points is the lowest since last ptember.

However, Mr Hague's rating among Tory supporters has deteriorated dramatically over the past month with 55 per cent dissatisfied and just 28 per cent satisfied. This net balance of minus 27 points compares with minus 4 points a month ago and is his worst ever figure. That underlines the importance for Mr Hague of the Tories doing well in the forthcoming Scottish, Welsh, local government and Europe-

Moreover, the public is be-coming less worried about the economic outlook and the threat of recession after the series of cuts in interest rates.

The MORI economic optimism index, measuring the balance of those thinking that the general economic condition of the country will improve rather than get worse over the next 12 months, now stands at minus 15 points, compared with minus 23 points in late January, and is the best figure since last May. Women are much more pessimistic than men, and those aged over 55 more pessimistic than those between 35 and 54. The public also remains con-

fident about the Government's economic policies with nearly a half (49 per cent) agreeing that, in the long term, they will improve the state of Britain's economy with less than a third (31 per cent) disagreeing.

This balance is only slightly down on a year ago before the last Budget, despite the evidence of slowdown.

While the net balance of plus 18 points is the lowest

Everything to play for in euro debate



the People (and it is always in capital letters) are on their side. They should not be so sure. The latest MORI poll sur, stat the public is evenly divided and that there is everything to play for in what will probably be a three-year referendum campaign. The poll was taken before Tony Blair's statement on Tuesday so the figures might show greater

Support for entry now.

The key point is that the poll does not assume that opinion is static and firm, but differentiates between strong and conditional sup-port and opposition. Of course, the exact balance will vary depending on the exact question asked. A "ditch/ save the pound" question would produce different answers. But the balance of opinion against entry has narrowed since the election.

The latest poll confirms the instinctive view that there is a hard core which strongly opposes British participation in the euro. This is now around a quarter of the pub-



lie, down from a third in August 1996. These firm opponents outnumber strong supporters, up from 10 to 17 per cent over the period. In the middle are the waverers, or rather the persuables whose view depends on what they think would be good or bad for the British economy. This total has remained roughly constant at about half the public, slightly more in the pro than the anti camp. This

includes 53 per cent of La-

bour supporters and 45 per

ent with regular polls that MORI Financial Services does for Salomon Smith Barney which shows that the gap between pros and cons is roughly ten points smaller if people are asked about their attitudes if the Government strongly urged that Britain should be part of a single currency, as would happen in a

cent of Tories. This is consist-

The Blair Government is not therefore facing a majority of sceptics, but rather, a mi-

nority of dichard opponents, and half the public which says it is persuadable either

ersuasion will depend on not only the curo being successful but also on Mr Blair being able to demonstrate entry is in Britain's economic interests,

in itself an elastic term. The scentics are torn. Some claim adamantly that a

majority of people are on

bold assertion yesterday that 121,764 of its readers voted to save the pound, a 15 to 1 margin. This is not in any way a representative poll, but rather a demonstration that some readers feel strongly enough to pick up a telephone. Last no guide to the balance of

opinion. The MORI poll shows that 37 per cent of Sun readers are strongly opposed and 28 per cent are generally opposed cent strongly support entry and 17 per cent generally sup-port but are persuadable. This suggests there are 45 per cent of waverers.

Other sceptics, including the Tory leadership, are worried about the "inevitability" argument - that Mr Blair is trying to create a climate where entry is seen as obvi-ous and desirable. The poll-show that two-thirds of the public think it is likely that they and their children will regularly use a single European currency and coinage by 2010. That is not the sa as British entry, but such expectations can affect atti-

So don't assume opinion is fixed. It all depends which side is seen as more credible and persuasive. No wonder Mr Blair was smiling on Tuesday at the Tory divi-

they have yet to win back those since Labour came to power, it Tide may | SNP plan turn for seaside resorts

By Valerie Elliott WHITEHALL EDITOR

FADED English tourist resorts are to receive cash help from the Government to help to restore them to their former glory.
John Prescott, the Deputy

Prime Minister, has approved a plan to allow local authorities to apply for regeneration grants for "tourism" purposes. The scheme is aimed at the seaside towns where drug addicts, jobless and homeless people have moved into dingy bed and breakfast hotels. Chris Smith, the Culture Sec-

retary, is also to encourage holiday towns to think creadvely about developing new attrac-tions and to consider National Lottery cash as a source of

The revamp of the resorts is part of a 15-point strategy to be unveiled today to make Britain a major tourism centre in Europe for the Millennium. Mr Smith believes the publici-ry surrounding the Millennium Dome at Greenwich will attract another two million people to Britain next year.

He believes those involved in the tourism industry must "raise their game" to cope with the demands from a new breed of traveller. Tomorrow's Tourism, to be

launched in the dome today. will stress the need for greater quality, higher standards and more helpful service at hotels and tourist attractions.



Prescott approved grant scheme for seaside towns

'is biased against English'

By JASON ALLARDYCE SCOTTISH POLITICAL

THE SNP was last night accused of discrimination over plans to abolish tuition fees for Scots but to require Engversities to pay.

The party is now consider-ing giving Scotland's 32 coun-cils money to distribute as bursaries only to those living with-in their boundaries. The SNP strategy, costed at £46 million a year, is designed to prevent an invasion of Scottish universities by students from England desperate to avoid £1.000

a year tuition fees.

The proposal was immediately criticised by politicians and student leaders because only students resident in Scot-land would qualify for assist-ance. It means that about 17,000 English students studying at Scottish universities and further education colleg-

es would continue to pay.

Jim Murphy, the Labour MP for Eastwood, said: "This would be a sad day for Scottish education, which is enriched by its diversity. Under the SNP, students would have to pass two exams: a reasonable academic one and a thoroughly disreputable one on cit-

izenship."
The National Union of Students in London said it supported any moves to abolish tuition fees, but voiced concern that the SNP would penalise thousands of people studying in Scotland because they were not resident there.

Nicola Sturgeon, the SNP education spokesman, re-fused to confirm or deny any details of the party's educa-tion proposals, which will be unveiled next week. Party strategists are now examining whether students from England should be classed as resident in Scotland once they have been accepted for a university place - although this would not get around the problem of Scottish universities being flooded with applications from all over the UK.





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MPs who profit by swing to the write

By JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MORE than a quarter of all MPs last year earned between a few pounds and £55,000 from the media, according to the new Register of Members'

Some 184 MPs admitted yesterday that they had accepted money for journalism.

The register, which had not been updated for more than a year, reveals MPs to be more diligent — or more cautious than before.

Not only are the existing en-tries more detailed, but more MPs have declared something for the first time. While 145 MPs failed to declare any interests in October 1997, only 112 this time did not make an en-

The register includes an entry by Peter Mandelson about the loan he received from Geoffrey Robinson "to assist in pur-chase of [a] home" while Mr Robinson, the former Paymaster General, uses the Register to declare for the first time the Guernsey-based trust from

which he is a discretionary her new six-month contract for benefician

The MPs making moncy from the media comprised 82 Labour MPs, 76 Tories, 20 Liberal Democrats and a handful of members from minority parties. In the language of the Reg-ister, they made "occasional earnings from journalism and

broadcasting". For some MPs, the payments amount to nothing more than a few hundred pounds in recompense for the occasional television interview. Some MPs say the money goes to a favourite charity or their constituency funds.

But for others it is a major source of income. The highest earner is George Galloway (Lab, Glasgow Kelvin) who earned almost £55,000 for a regular column in the Scottish edition of the Mail on Sunday. Ann Widdecombe, the Shadow Health Secretary, did equally as well: she earned

£15,000 from making six pro-

grammes for Channel 4, and

a weekly column in the Sunday Express will net her al-most £40,000. Neither come close to the previous record held by Lord Hattersley, who in the January 1997 Register admitted to earning almost

£110,000 a year from journal-

Frank Field, the former Welfare Reform minister, gets up to £20,000 for a regular column in the Sunday People. Ro-seanna Cunningham (SNP. Perth) earns the same amount for a weekly column in the Scottish Mirror. Alex Salmond, the SNP lead-

er, gets up to £15,000 for a weekly column in the News of the World; he also writes a weekly racing column for The Herald.

Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor, earns up to £15,000 a year for a weekly interview or commentary on Bloomberg Television. David Curry, Tory MP for Skipton and Ripon, earned up

to £10,000 a year for a column in Farming News.

Accountancy Age, a trade magazine, seems a popular source of cash for MPs. Nick Gibb (C. Bognor Regis and Littlehampton) gets up to £5,000 a year for an occasional column, as does Malcolm Bruce. the Liberal Democrat Treasurv spokesman.

ury spokesman.
Stuart Bell (Lab, Middlesborough) — who earned up to El5,000 for regular articles for the Financial Mail on Sunday — also picked up £5,000 from Accountoncy Age. Jim Cousins (Lab, Newcastle-up-on-Type Central) and up to on-Tyne Central) got up to £1,000 a year for a regular col-umn in the magazine.

Sir Patrick Cormack (C. South Staffordshire) earned up to £15,000 a year as editor of The House Magazine, the Westminster parish magazine. His assistant editors.

Charles Kennedy, a potential replacement for Paddy Ash-down, John Healey (Lab, Wentworth) and Austin Mitch-ell (Lab, Great Grimsby) were each paid up to £5,000.

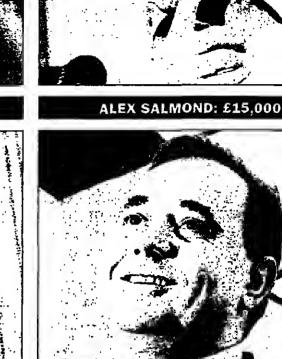
Paul Stinchcombe (Lab. Wellingborough) earned up to £1,000 for a monthly column in Planning Mogazine. Phil Woolas (Oldham East and Saddleworth) earned a fee for doing a television commentary for the TUC congress.

Sir Norman Fowler, the Shadow Home Secretary, is non-executive chairman of the media group which publishes several major regional newspapers.

Tim Yeo. Shadow Agriculture Minister, writes for Coun-



FRANK FIELD: £20,000



GEORGE GALLOWAY: £55,000





Shellfish and spoons fill the gift hamper

BY MARK INGLEFIELD POLITICAL REPORTER

MPs declare a wealth of gifts, including membership to Stringfellows and an unspecified "quantity of crabs and lobsters". The latter was received by the veteran Tory MP for Totnes, Sir. Anthony Steen, who was presented with an unstated amount of shellfish

dustry. It is not recorded why Nigel Evans, the Labour MP for Ribble Valley, was given a pass to Stringfellows.

Like every other MP, they are obliged to register any gift that is valued above £125. Charles Wardle, the

former Tory minister and MP for Bexhill and Battle, has registered a hamper that he received on his birthday. signed ... intrinsic value nil". Howev-Mr Wardle-makes a point of saying er, the spoon was presented to Ms Wid-this was completely—"unsolicited", decombe by Uri Geller, who told her

which is not surprising given the ham-per came from Harrods, proprietor Mohamed Al Fayed.

Ann Widdecombe, the Shadow Health Secretary, emerges as equally cautious. Under "Gifts, benefits and hospitality", Ms Widdecombe in-cludes "one BBC teapsoon bent and

that a similar spoon had raised a five figure sum at a charity auction.

On the whole, Labour MPs do not seem to attract such high quality presents as their Tory counterparts. Gerry Bermingham (St Helens South) owns up to the loan of a satellite dish. while Jane Humble; (Blackpool North and Fleetwood), has only one entry in the register, a model sailing ship from

pentium•///

YEAR

Match tickets are top leisure goal

BY MARK INGLEFIELD

WATCHING football is the most popular leisure perk for MPs. Nearly 30, both women and men, have revealed they have been given tickets and hospitality for national and international matches over the past two years.

Although rugby internationals, test matches and Wimbledon feature in the Register of Members' Interests, football is the preferred form of corporate entertainment.

Jim Wallace, the Scottish Liberal Democrat leader and MP for Orkney and Shetland. went to the Scotland v Brazil World Cup match in Paris last year, when Scottish Gas paid for his ticket, hotel and meal. The company also arranged for David Marshall, Labour Member for Glasgow Shettlestone, to attend the match.

But they were not alone. Tom Pendry, the Labour MP for Staybridge and Hyde, was at the game as a guest of the StadiVarios Group, who paid for his travel on the Eurostar and a night's stay in Paris. Stephen Hepburn, the Labour MP for Jarrow, went one better. He spent three days in Paris as a guest of Epinay-sur-Seine for the World Cup final between France and Brazil.

Not only international games attract MPs. Judith Church, Labour MP for Dagenham, took her family to watch Tottenham Hotspur play Everton and Middlesborough. On both ocassions she was the guest of Hillside Man-

agement Group.

Littlewoods Pools gave hospitality and two tickets for last year's FA Cup final to Jane Kennedy, Labour MP for Liverpool Wavertree. Bill Ram-mell, the Labour MP for Harlow, attended a European Cup match between Arsenal and Lens at Wembley as a guest of McDonald's.

Tories favoured other sports. One of them, Bernard Jenkin, Shadow Transport spokesman, had a day's shooting at Boxted, Essex.

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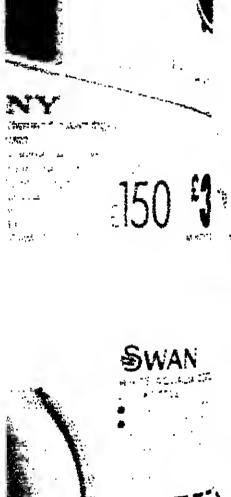
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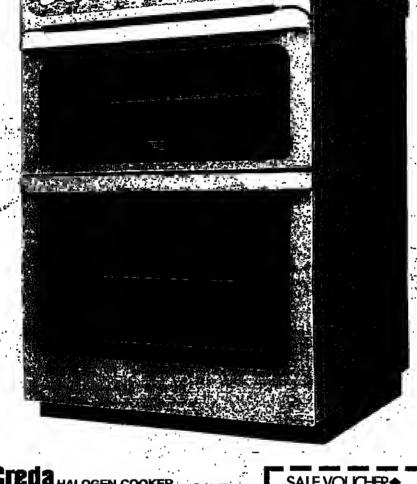
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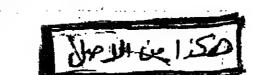
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Tide turns in favour of wave power

MACHINES named Whiplash and Limpet are to pioneer the commercial development of wave power in Britain. Nearly a decade after the Goverrament withdrew support for wave schemes, the technology is to be given renewed backing after studies showing that costs have more than halved.

Lord McDonald, the Scottish Business and Industry Minister, said yesterday that wave-power projects at Islay had support under a special levy on electricity bills to encourage green schemes.
This will open up new op-

portunities for a range of technologies," he announced at a meeting at Aerpac, a wind tur-bine blade maker in Glenrothes. The schemes in Scotland for wave power and a £42 million wood-burning power plant have been approved along with a string of wind-power projects. The approval guarantees a market and premium price for generators of green power plants during the costly start-up phase.

The cost of electricity generated from wave power is down to about 7p a unit. From wind, it is now down to about 2p in some cases, making it as competitive as gas.
Whiplash is the brainchild

of Richard Yemm.

It is a tube of steel 100 metres long and 3.4 metres wide, with about 15 special joints. It is moored into the waves and snakes from side to side and up and down. Pumps inside each segment force oil down a

Nick Nuttall

reports on new plans to get electricity from the sea as costs fall

pipe to a hydraulic motor. This in turn drives a generator with the electricity fed via an undersea cable to shore.

Two Whiplash machines. able to generate 750 kilowatts. are to be installed about a mile offshore at Machir Bay, Islay. Dr Yemm, 30, said they would cost about £2.25 million over three years. He added: "I am delighted. This is a very important start for wave power. We are now starting to get the same support as wind power."

There was no reason why the technology could not be deployed elsewhere, he said. Studies by the European Commission indicated that Britain could generate all its electricity from the waves if 0.1 per cent of the wave energy around the

coast was collected. The Limpet wave-power machine is the work of Wavegen. formerly called Advanced Research Technologies, of Inverness. For the company, Allan Thompson said that its machine would also be off Islay. Waves smashing into a gulley on the island push air to spin a

HOW WAVE POWER WILL GENERATE ELECTRICITY

turbine. The turbine spins the opposite way as the waves subside and air is sucked back down. The machine is an improved version of an experimental station built by Queen's University, Belfast. Mr Thomson urged the Government to back wave power south of the border as well.

awarded under the Scottish Renewables Obligation, which means that households pay a subsidy towards higher costs of green power to safeguard the environment by reducing greenhouse gases. A similar levy, the Non-Fossil Fuel Obligation, operates in England and Wales. The next round of this will promote the country's first offshore wind schemes.

Mr Thomson said that wave power should be promoted with wind so that the same section of sea can produce far more electricity at a cut price: You could have wind turbines sitting on top of wave

Details of a third wave machine are being kept confiden-tial until the developers have been told. Lord McDonald also announced plans for Britain's biggest wood-into-power scheme to be built at Morayhill, next donr to a timber mill near inverness.

The 12.9 megawatt power plant is big enough to heat and light about 12,000 homes and will burn wood wastes. It is about two megawatts bigger than one undergoing construc-



Winner: Claudia Cardinale at the Georgio Armani store in Knightsbridge yesterday

Claudia joins highest stars

THE Italian actress Claudia Cardinale was celebrating yesterday after being elevated to an exclusive club that includes Bette Davis and

Cardinale, star of films ranging from The Pink Panther to Fitzcarraldo, was given a recbridge, London, the day after being honoured with a Rudolph Valentino Award. The awards, solid gold statueties, are sponsored by the Ital-

ian Prime Minister and the Motion Picture-Association of Italy and given each year to an actor, an actress and a director.

This year's two other winners were the actor Jeremy Irons and the director Bernardo Bertolucci. Cardinale faced competition from Julie and Emma Thompson. As well as Davis and Taylor, previous winners of the actress award include Grace Kelly and Sophia Loren.

Theatre plot to expand creates

By DALYA ALBERGE ARTS CORRESPONDENT

a scene

THE innovative Hampstead Theatre has angered residents in North London with a £20 million expansion plan that would destroy a park, playground and market.

The National Lottery has already awarded nearly £1 million to take the theatre "through to a design stage". although yesterday the thea-tre still could not say how much — except to the nearest £10 million — the scheme

Residents say the park may be small - about the size of a football pitch - and rundown but it is a green space in which to breathe, a place for parents with prams and for the elderly. They fear that an all-weather sports pitch, a playground, a community cen-tre and a street market will also have to make way for a massively expanded theatre with little relevance for most of the community.

Camden council's planning approval ran into strong criti-cism when it was found that two councillors on the theatre board had voted in favour despite being advised by the council's lawyers to stand

James Williams, the thea tre's general manager, said that the 39-year-old building would not survive more than three years because of subsidence and wet and dry rot. Rebuilding on the same site was impossible because it was too small to meet modern regulations. An alternative open space would be found.

The theatre's claim that 60 per cent of the community favours the scheme is widely disputed. John Breckon, managing director of a City conference business, said that developers in the City had shown how to tackle a limited space. They dig down into the foundations and put up brilliant

new buildings."
Another resident said: "It's the cost that's so staggering. There's not exactly a shortage there is a shortage of green space and sports grounds, especially here."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Adams's lawyer is charged

The Australian lawyer of Gesary Adams has been charged with assaulting police. Terry Fisher was allegedly involved in a scuffle on Tuesday night at the Queensland Irish Association in Brisbane, where Mr Adams had been speaking.
Mr Fisher's lawyer, Terry
O'Gorman, said his client

would "vigorously" deny the charge when he appeared in a Brisbane court on March 10.

Mr Adams is visiting Melbourne, Perth. Sydney and Brisbane but will not meet any

senior members of the Australian Government.

Party death

Friends of Ian Clifton photographed him with a blow-up doll at a party not knowing that he was probably dead from alcoholic poisoning. A coron said friends' neglect contribut-ed to the accidental death of Mr Clifton, 35, of Sheffield.

VC sets record

A Victoria Cross won on the second day of fighting in the First World War was bought by a collector for a record £92,000 at auction in London. Major Ernest Alexander earned the VC on August 24, 1914, during the retreat from Mons.

Time to decide

The High Court has reserved judgment on a claim by mem-bers of the pit deputies union Nacods that RJB Mining is un-lawfully requiring them to work more than the 48 hours a week laid down by the new Working Time Regulations.

M-way warning !

Drivers are being warned to expect delays on the MI near Notingham between 7pm on Saturday, March 6. and 3pm the next day. The section be-tween junctions 24 and 25 will be closed to enable the construction of a roadbridge.

More Madness

The 1980s pop band Madness have reformed their original seven-strong line-up to record the first new songs for 15 Suggs, presenter of Channel 5's Night Fever, are working on a single and an album.

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The Midlands Bedworth (Nuneaton). Blyth (Notts), Burton Upon Trent, Grantham (New Fox). Grantham North, Grantham South, Hartlebury, Leicester North Market Harborough, Northampton (Upton Way), Nuneaton, Oswestry, Retford, Rugeley, Shrewsbury, Uppingham, Wellingborough, Worksop.

East Anglia/South East Cambridge South, Cambridge West, Feering (Colchester). Hellingly (Eastbourne). Huntingdon, Ipswich (Beacon Hill), Ipswich (Capel), pswich (Stowmarket). Kings Lynn (Long Sutton), Lincoln, Norwich, Sleaford, Thrapston.

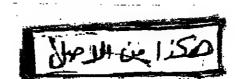
The South Alton (Fourmarks), Amesbury (Stonehenge), Barton Mills, Beckington, Bedford (South West), Billingshurst (Five Oaks), Bognor Regis (Fontwell). Chichester (West), Exeter, Ilminster, Uphook (Hants) Okehampion East, Okehampton West, Oxford, Stonehouse, Sutton Scotney North, Sutton Scotney South, Tauriton, Tiverton, Towcester (Silverstone), Warminster.

Wales and Ireland Bangor, Belfast, Cork Halkyn (North Wales), Uanelli (Cross Hands), Monmouth, Pencoed, St Clears (Cannarthen), Waterford (Ireland),

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Servers matter

In this new transaction-based world, your server choice is critical.

A server that isn't secure can permanently destroy your customers' confidence in you and your online place of business.

A server that can't scale up to increased traffic can end up turning profitable customers away.

Powerful servers now cost as little as basic PCs did just a few short years ago. But the issues you face in buying them are radically different and much more complicated.

What operating system do you choose if you're just starting out in business and expect to rapidly expand?

What server lets you grow at a moment's notice?

Is the server solution for the human resources department of a multinational corporation the best one for a small consulting firm?

We can help you work through these issues because we've been solving them for thousands of businesses for decades.



IBM. The world's largest server company

According to IDC, an independent research body, IBM is the world's largest server company.* We build and install more servers than anyone else, including Windows NT, UNIX, mid-range and enterprise servers. Through a combination of four ranges: the Netfinity, AS/400, RS/6000 and S/390 servers, we can deliver an e-business solution for your organisation. Our server family can handle anything from a lone server running single applications, such as e-mail or a specific database, to a server connecting tens of thousands of employees around the world.

Whether it's a single server or a combination working in harmony, there is no one solution, anyone who tells you there is, is trying to pull the wool over your eyes. The benefits and strengths of the server solution we offer you will depend on the practices and conventions of your business and the industry you work within.



IBM offers a range of servers for e-business for the smallest to the largest company, ractuding effortable.
Windows NT, LINIX, mid-range and enterprise servers. All current IBM servers are Year 2006 (200).

On the Web, a server that crashes

is a customer service problem.

The simple promise of the Web and e-business is that you can instantly reach millions of people, everywhere – anytime. Consider: as you're going to bed, billions of people around the world are just getting up. This is why doing business 24-hours a day, 7-days a week is so important.

pentium II

All ISM Notificity servers are built on lutel processors. The ISM Netflody 7098 M18 is powered by the new total Pentium II Xeon processor, providing it with the lending bandwayer in its steet An e-business never closes

IBM's reputation has always been built on reliability.

Our newest and most affordable servers, the Intel-based IBM Netfinity series, are establishing some of the most impressive numbers for reliability and availability in the Windows NT environment. Our Netfinity 3000 is allowing smaller businesses to offer customers and clients around-the-clock access to catalogues. inventories and information.

IBM's ultrascalable UNIX platform, the RS/6000, powers some of the most successful and bookmarked e-business sites.

AS/400's proven capabilities, along with the ability to run Java and NT, have made it one of the most popular mid-range servers.



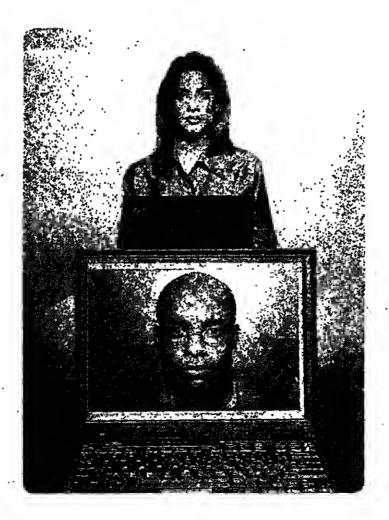
The UNIX-based IBM RS/5000 SP was powered some of the most beavily visited Web sites in bistory – including the Nagaro Olympic Winter Games with 634,715,480 hits over 15 days.

figstern for

The five nines

Several hardware companies are touting their long-term strategies for achieving 'Five Nines' (99.999% availability); IBM is already delivering.

Our latest S/390, the G5 Enterprise Server with Parallel Sysplex clustering technology, gives your business the closest thing to continuous computing. In fact, with just five minutes of estimated planned or unplanned downtime a year, it's no wonder many customer service based organisations rely on the S/390 as the centrepiece of their e-business activities.



59.969% reliability equals
5 minutes of downtime per year, 97% reliability
squals a loss of 263 hours per year.

On the Web, a server that ten's secure

is a customer confidence problem.

Secondly is a recurring a garanare for the people charged with seeping rooms/submission from and your data protected.

Security is the distribution when constructing an IBM server and is never abugh, from a third party.

IBM has spent over three decades securing the world's corporate networks ensuring a sound highlis sleep for security experts everywhere



Every Nettinity server includes
3-year limited onsite warrast
90-day ISM Start Up Support, and
Lotus Domino at no extra ros
Attractive financing is available
for all model

Powerful, habiter-resistant servers

Your customers' data is vitally important to them. Protecting this data is your mission in life if you manage an e-business. And, because this data resides on your servers you need servers that are designed to keep intruders out and away from information. IBM servers are a hacker's worst nightmare.

IBM servers can be configured with security ranging from passwores to certificates on smart cards – you determine exactly who's on your network's guest list and who isn't.

Robust (St.) encryption capability, available on every IBM server, theirs businesses to get into e-business white minimising the risk of teaving the reserves on their customers open to a breach in security.

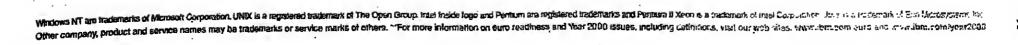
IBM e-business software such as Net.Commerce, part of the WebSphere arrany allows nearly all organisations to take their core business to the Web, without creating an unsecured gateway to their private information.

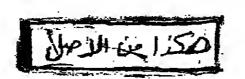
(Bb) helps imajor international sintines make their reservation systems available to flyers, allowing them to book llight reservations and purchase tickets from their databases. These are now sizeable businesses for those airlines.

The security of IBM servers provide network managers with

the comfort of knowing they have the most complete protection
available when their company conducts business across a
network through an extrane; or on the Web.

Read on and learn more





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On the Web, a server that isn't scalable

is a business problem.

e-business works



Chetsea's stadium holds around 35,89 people but millions of fans can visit the online Megastore, and buy merchandis securely, thanks to IBM Net.Commerce

As a company's Web site becomes a primary source of interaction between the company and its customers, scalability and e-business growth becomes a major issue.

Scalability means providing a structure that can grow to support thousands of users at a reasonable cost.

IBM has been tackling this issue for years.

As with built-in reliability and security, IBM servers are designed to be scalable for enormous growth. Growth is what IBM servers are about. If you want your company to grow, e-business will make it happen.

dolcevita

An IBM solution built with Lotus Notes lets Vespa reach millions of customers they wouldn't otherwise be able to reach, creating a 24-hour-a-day showroom.

Massively scalable Web sites

How big e-business will become is anyone's guess. Whatever happens there are massive opportunities and goals that e-business can help you identify and achieve.

A major European mail-order company chose an S/390 to host their Web site because of its superior scalability. The sheer power and size of S/390 allows for virtually unlimited growth. This member of the server family also provides the high levels of security required by online marketers, banks, brokerages and other commercial institutions and businesses.

The RS/6000 SP server has powered some of the most heavily visited Web sites In history – including the Nagano Olympic Winter Games with 634,716,480 hits over 16 days, and the 1998 Wimbledon Championship Web site which handled 145,478 hits in a single minute.

The 1998 PGA TOUR Web site accommodated more information-hungry enthusiasts than anyone imagined. Handling more than 200 million page views, it attracted thousands of golf fans. The site, www.pgatour.com with real time sconing, exclusive stores and shopping is solely powered by IBM servers.

Every IBM server, from the smallest Netfinity to the most powerful IBM S/390, can handle the traffic, transactions and scalability that e-business demands.



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Questions?

What e-business solutions would you like to know more about?

- O How to establish a Web site.
- O How to sell merchandise or services over the Web more effectively.
- O How to make your supply chain more efficient and get products to market faster.
- O How to use the Web to reach new markets.
- How to put your core business processes online (such as HR, competitive bidding, etc.).

What do you think you need to help you achieve your e-business goals?

- O Strategic consulting. (How can I use a-business to help my business?)
- O Technology consulting. (How do I combine new technology with my existing systems in a cost-efficient manner?)
- Expertise on how e-business can help me in my industry.
- O Help integrating my networks so they run seamlessly.
- High-volume servers capable of handling millions of hits a day while conducting complex transactions.
- Help developing custom applications, intranets and extranets.
- Advice on security. (How do I protect my most vital systems while getting the right information out to the people who need it?)
- O Advice on how e-business can help small businesses grow.

fact e-business is more than buying books on the Web. 60% of online commerce is business-to-business.



On the Web, you need people with experience.

Connecting the systems you have to the Web requires knowledge of some complex and often disparate technologies. This is where IBM's expertise and long experience in integrating multiple architectures, software and operating systems can work to your advantage.

We have more knowledge of working with a mix of Windows NT, UNIX, mid-range and enterprise servers than any other company.

IBM Global Services, in conjunction with our many worldwide Business Partners, can help you assess, plan, design, implement and run your e-business. And IBM Global Financing can help you choose the most effective way to finance your e-business solution, with a payment plan customised to meet your needs.

IBM has helped companies of every size become e-businesses faster than these organisations ever thought was possible. IBM has helped small to medium-size businesses become e-businesses in a few weeks.

We've helped huge companies become fully-fledged e-businesses in a matter of a few short months.

To find out how our engines of e-business can improve your organisation visit www.ibm.com/servers/ebusiness/uk or call Edward Bailey any time between 8.30am and 6pm, Monday – Friday on 0800 400 000.

Our Web site will explain how our family of servers can help you turn your business into an e-business, or help your existing e-business operate more efficiently and more profitably.

www.ibm.com/servers/ebusiness/uk





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Kosovo dims Albright's star

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

IT WAS symptomatic of the State Department's confusion over Kosovo that its public relations people were unable to say yesterday whether Mad-eleine Albright, Secretary of State, would be returning to the peace talks when they resume in three weeks. At the White House, officials said her

schedule was not available. Ms Albright's formerly bright star has been considerably dimmed by the broken promises of Rambouillet. She was photographed coming and going from the talks wearing an outsize trilby that came low over her eyes. She was un-able to pull rabbits out of it.

Back in Washington she could paint only a troubled picture of Kosovo's future. She told the Senate Foreign Rela-tions Committee that the Serbs appeared to be using the pause in the talks to mass troops and armour for a spring offensive against the ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. She issued a warning that Nato forces could intervene to block such a move. She promised to work hard to make it clear to the Serbs that new attacks would be a "grave

This was just the latest of Ms Albright's hawkish warnings and they are beginning to have a hollow ring. Giving warnings is a sad substitute for policy, said The Washington Post. Ever since the nononsense American diplomat. Richard Holbrooke, knocked

heads together at the Bosnian peace talks in Dayton, Ohio, the Clinton Administration has been dazzled by the prospects of a repeat performance.

Rambouillet was not Day-ton, where Mr Holbrooke controlled the show and kept the opposing factions confined to a bleak American air force hase. At the Kosovo talks, the French Government was in charge of the agenda and nego-tiations were shared among a

Also, Ms Albright is no Holbrooke. She is acutely aware that he will be remembered for ending the war in Bosnia and she would naturally like to match his achievement. Mr Holbrooke, however, is re-nowned for preparing himself for all options along with his

bullying.

Ms Albright, by contrast, was sideswiped by the refusal of the Albanians to play their part unless the Kosovo peace document guaranteed them a referendum on independence in three years' time. With the population 90 per cent ethnic Albanian the poll would be bound to succeed. Having put the prestige of her office on the line, Ms Albright was reduced to pleading.

The failure of the Rambouil-

let talks was further evidence that Ms Albright, and by extension the Clinton Administration, did not fully understand the fragmented Kosovo Albanians whom they were trying to win over. Also, unlike Dayton,



Yugoslav President Milosevic mocks Ms Albright's threat of force in this view by Hachfeld in Neues Deutschland

WORLD IN BRIEF

Death toll rises in **Indonesian riots**

Jakarta: Thousands of people yesterday sought refuge in churches and mosques in the riot-torn eastern Indonesian city of Ambon, fleeing Muslim-Christian violence that has left at least 18 people dead in the past three days. The latest outbreak of rioting started after at least two houses owned by Christians were set on fire, apparently by petrol bombs thrown by Muslims, resi-

"Stabbing of people, shooting and burning is still taking place and the city is still tense," a local journalist in Ambon said yester-day. At least 149 people have been killed in sectarian violence since mid-January in Ambon and on several neighbouring

Anwar 'lucky to live'

Kuala Lumpur: A doctor has said Anwar Ibrahim. Malaysia's dismissed Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, was lucky to have survived a beating in police detention, and rejected a suggestion by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister, that the injuries could bave been self-inflicted. "It's fortunate this man did not succumb to death," Dr Halim Mansar, a forensic consultant, told a royal commission investigating injuries Mr Anwar sustained after his arrest in September. (Reuters)

Rebels 'seized children'

Freetown: About 2,000 children aged from five to 14 years have vanished since rebels invaded the Sierra Leone capital of Free-town on January 6. according to the Social Welfare Ministry. Officials fear that many of the youngsters have been abducted by the rebels when the latter were chased out by the West African in-tervention force, Ecomog, and then taken into the bush. Many of the children have already been traumatised by rebel arrocties, including gang rape, the officials said. (AFP)

21 escape Crete jail

Iraklion: Police on Crete were searching for 21 escaped prisoners, shutting down all ports and airports on the island, authorities said. The men — 20 Albanians and a Pole — were being held in a moderate security prison pending trial for various offences.

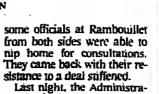
They allegedly jumped over a lost fence not under camera surveillance in a pre-dawn escape. Prison authorities raised the alarm when the men failed to appear for morning roll call. (AP)

Israel blocks extradition

Jerusalem: Israel's Supreme Court has ruled that a Jewish American teenager wanted for murder in the United States cannot be extradited because he holds Israeli citizenship by birth. In a decision likely to anger the US authorities, the court said Samuel Sheinbein, 18, should be tried in Israel rather than America for the murder in September 1997 in Maryland of a 19-year-old Hispanic acquaintance. Enrique Tello. (AFP)

Noises off

Berlin: About 1,100 soldiers took over the Reichstag parliament building to check the acoustics. Officials renovating the neo-Renaissance palace in time for the Government's return to Berlin recruited the troops to check the sound system. When a new parliament building in Bonn opened in 1992, acoustic problems forced politicians to abandon the building for ten months. (AP)



tion's spin doctors were trying to put the best possible face on the messy ending in Rambouil-let. One accomplishment, they said, had been simply getting the Albanians to sit down in the same room with the Serbs.

[Pristina: An Albanian delegate from the Rambouillet talks blamed hardliners within the Kosovo Liberation Army for scuppering a peace deal (Tom Walker writes). Veton Surroi, a moderate in the 16-member delegation, said Adam Demaci, the KLA's father figure, had wrecked the consensus among ethnic Albanians for an agreement. Mr Surroi said that the delegation would sign the deal when talks resume.

Fighting erupted yesterday between Yogoslav forces and Kosovo rebels in Bukos. 20 miles from Pristina. Explosions were heard in the outskirts of the city.



A French soldier making an electron ic record of an armoured personnel carrier in the Greek port of Salonika yesterday. The French arrived in northern Greece to join up with the Nato force in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia today. Brit-ish troops also began unloading tanks and other equipment in Saloni-ka yesterday to reinforce the Nato contingent which could take part in

Nato builds up Balkan force

Nato's build-up is cootinuing for the exercise "Alexander the Great - 99" which starts in northern Greece next week and will last about ten days (James Pettifer writes).

More than 2,000 US Marines and other support units are assembling

Nato-Greek force. The Nato exercise underlines the increasing commitment of the alliance to reinforce political stability in the key Vardar valley that dominates transport routes in

the southern Balkans - the road and

rail links between Yugoslavia, Mace-

donia and Greece. The railway north from Salonika is being increasingly dominated by military transport.

Greeks are bemused, and not a little disturbed, by this dramatic reminder of their proximity to the Balkan crisis. Salonika is as much a Balkan as a Eoropean city these days, in the wake of the huge influx of Serbs. Russians and Albanians over the past five years.

New Banking and Savings

	Int	ere	est	Ra	ate	s f	rom	Na	tio	nv	vid	e
							MARCH 1999 RSONAL SAVERS					
		Previous			New				Previous			New
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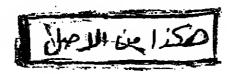
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Oil firms 'had role in Nigerian atrocities'

THE role of multinational oil companies which work with African military dictatorships is likely to come under the spotlight after Nigeria's transition to democracy and demands in the United States Congress that the US oil giant, Chevron, should be investigated over allegations that it helped the Nigerian security forces to massacre civilians.

Dennis Kucinich, a congressman, this week wrote to the House International Reladons Committee alleging that Chevron had supplied helicopters to Nigerian forces to "bomb villages, massacre inno-cent civilians and terrorise those protesting against the environmental degradation of the Niger delta".

The allegations came after the Washington-based Human Rights Watch published a 200-page report, The Price of Oil, alleging that Chevron — as well as Anglo-Dutch Shell, Agip, the Italian oil company, Elf-Aquitaine from France and Mobil -- had damaged the delta's environment, failed

Rights report puts Chevron in the spotlight as Nigeria votes for a leader, Sam Kiley writes in Lagos

so, the backing was with the knowledge and approval of the French authorities and Par-

Chevron had won oil concessions from Mr Lissouba, who

was deposed after bloody fight-

ing in the former French colo-

ny which has access to some of the largest untapped off-shore oil reserves in the world. Hu-man Rights Watch said in its

report on Nigeria that the oil

companies were unco-opera-

tive in answering the advocacy

But as democracy looms in

Nigeria, where campaigning

for the presidencial election

closed last night, they are un-

likely to cononue to maintain

this posicion: Nigeria's unpub-

lished Constitution for its

Fourth Republic is likely to in-

clude clauses which protect

group's questions.

is's overseas spy agency.

to clean up slicks which had destroyed fishing areas and often connived with Nigeria's armed forces in the killing and

detention of people.

The focus of attention on Nigeria, which is in transition from military rule to democracy and is scheduled to swear in a civilian President in May, is likely to be widened to include investigations on the role of oil companies elsewhere in West

Human rights groups, intelligence sources and diplomats said that the role of French oil companies in the civil war still raging in Congo-Brazzaville was under covert investigation. They said that Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who deposed Pascal Lissouba. had the back-

ing of Elf-Aquitaine. According to a French mercenary who flew for Mr Ngueshave suffered worst from oil operations in their homelands. Olusegun Obasanjo, 61, and Olu Falae, 60, the presidential candidates, face the electorate tomorrow.

Chevron has denied any complicity in the deaths of protesters, who have kidnapped several oil workers and taken over offshore oil rigs in protest at the destruction of their environment and fisheries.

Scores of liaws, and people from other communities, have been killed in clashes with the security police which Human Rights Watch said were often ferried to the conflict areas on oil company helicopters and speedboats.

But the company did admit to Human Rights Watch that two unarmed protesters were killed by Nigerian security personnel flown on to Chevron's Parabe Platform to remove 200 people who had closed down production last May. One of those who were killed was a negodator.

Censorship, page 48



Ultra-Orthodox Jews in Jerualem linked by handcuffs yesterday in a demonstration in support of three Jews arrested on suspicion of arson and attacking Christian missionaries. A court yesterday sen-

tenced one of the three to

Jews angered by arrests

eight mouths in prison for his role in setting fire to an apartment inhabited by two Swiss women missionaries in the ultra-Orthodox quarter of Mea Shearim four months ago. News of the conviction prompted some protesters to burn rubbish bins

nism," said Mark Berg. 39, a protester. Ultra-Orthodox

grave of a Jewish settler, Baruch Goldstein, erupted yesterday, the fifth anniversary of the day he massacred 29 Palestinians in the West Bank city of Hebron, holy to Muslims The elaborate grave at the

entrance to Kiryat Arba, a set-tlement overlooking Hebron where the New York-born Goldstein lived, and the area around it, have become a macabre place of pilgrimage for Jewish extremists who regard the late doctor as a hero. Yesterday Israeli police pre-

vented peace activists from protesting at the grave, which is still adorned with the words "martyr" and "holy", despite repeated legal attempts to have them removed and promises by the Israeli Army that the grotesque shrine at the grave would be dealt with.

"We were stopped by police and some of us — I would say between ten and 15 — were even detained," said Irene Steinfeldt, a Peace Now activist. "We wanted to protest at Goldstein's tomb to show our dismay that it still stands as a shrine five years after the mas-sacre. But we were met by a large police force, some of whom pushed and shoved us."

Last June Israel's parliament passed legislation, popularly known as the Goldstein Law, banning monuments in remembrance of perpetrators of "terror". But fear of a vio-lent backlash by ultra-nationalist Jews has prevented the

army from taking action. In an attempt to discourage extremists making pilgrim-

Israelis feud over 'shrine' to mass killer

AN UNSEEMLY row over the Christopher Walker reports from Jerusalem on an extremist pilgrimage site

ages to the site, the army ordered the two most offending words removed. But the Supreme Court in Jerusalem issued a temporary injunction in December against the changes after Goldstein's

father petitioned the court. On Monday, the court asked a retired judge to medi-ate. Moshe Goral, a court snokesman, said such arbitra-

tion was not unusual. Ran Cohen, a left-wing Israeli politician, then attacked the court for failing to rule on the matter. "Each week people are going there to get a lesson in how to become a Jewish terror-

ist," he said. Goldstein was beaten to death by Muslim worshippers who survived his shooting spree in the holy Tomb of the Patriarchs, known to the Islamic world as the Ibrahimi mosque. His attack took place during dawn prayers on February 25, 1994.

Three years later Israel handed over 80 per cent of Hebron to Palestinian selfrule. About 400 militant Jewish settlers and 150 seminary students have remained in the Israeli-controlled sector where they live surrounded by 150,000 hostile Arabs.

British lead hunt for peace in Congo

FROM JAN RAATH IN HARARE

BRITAIN appears to have taken the lead in the first major international diplomatic initiative for peace in the Democrat-ic Republic of Congo that will

involve the European Union and the United Nations. Tony Lloyd, the Foreign Of-fice Minister, in Harare on a shuttle around the nine countries involved in the war and in mediation efforts, said here vesterday that the conflict was now "of continental and global importance".

He said that Britain had a clear role to play in mobilising the internacional community in the search for peace in the seven-month war and to provide practical help for a ceasefire and its aftermath.

After two hours of talks with President Mugabe of Zimpabwe, who is regarded as President Kabila of the Congo's closest ally. Mr Lloyd questioned whether "the political will and the urgency exists

to put an end to the conflict". Mr Lloyd also raised with Mr Mugabe Britain's concern over the illegal detention and the torture of two journalists here by military authorities



Karl LaGrand: he

Murderer dies by injection

Phoenix: A German-born convicted killer was executed by lethal injection yesterday, despite German

government protests.
Officials said that Karl LaGrand, 36, received a lethal injection in the early hours at the state prison complex at Florence, Arizona, about 60 miles southeast of Phoenix. He was pronounced dead four minutes later.

Witnesses said that La-Grand expressed remorse to the family of a bank manager whom he and his brother Walter murdered and the clerk they stabbed in 1982. Walter LaGrand. 37, is to be executed next Wednesday. (Reuters)



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TONY BLAIR last night head-ed into confrontation with the European Union over Brit-ain's E2 billion rebate from the Brussels budget — only two days after embracing the euro more warmly than ever.

The Prime Minister arrived in Germany for a special EU summit that will demand sacrifices from all members to bring about a massive shakeup of its expensive agricultural policy and open the way to new entrants from Central

and Eastern Europe. But as Mr Blair flew in he maintained that British sacrifices would not include the cashback deal secured by Mar-garet Thatcher in 1984, the same deal that was attacked as "unjust" by EU foreign ministers two weeks ago.

Yesterday senior British officials suggested that the other 14 heads of government would be wasting their time if they tried to get the rebate reduced or removed. And in a deliberate raising of the temperature before today's gathering, they accused others of questioning

Prime Minister pressed to make sacrifices, writes

Philip Webster in Petersberg

the British money-back arrangement as an excuse to avoid concentrating on the huge reforms that were needed.

In taking such a hard line in advance, Mr Blair risks em-barrassment if he has to concede on the rebate as part of the wider reform that the German presidency of the EU hopes to achieve by the end of next month in Berlin. But he was clearly trying to counter the impression after his meeting in December with President Chirac that he would ultimately give way to French demands that everything should be placed on the table.

Old friends fall out over budget reform

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PETERSBERG

EUROPEAN leaders expect to be treated today to the unusual sight of a full-blown dispute between Germany and France over how to divide the costs of running an expanding European Union.

The session, at Petersberg, near Bonn, has been called to force the pace before a final bout of negotiations next month for the Agenda 2000 package, a big revamp of the way the EU raises and spends its money. Farm spending ac-counts for half the budget and regional aid for about a third.

The EU's two senior partners have broken with their traditional concern for unity and accused one another of selfish tactics that could threaten the stability of the Union. The nub of the quarrel is

France's belief that Gerhard Schröder is trying to force France to pay much of the cost of Germany's demand for a big cut in its £8 billion annual contribution to the £60 billion EU budget.

France is incensed at Bonn's refusal to withdraw a scheme that would force Paris to use its own money for part of the subsidies that go to its farmers. Britain and most other states favour "partial co-financing" for the farm programme.

Pierre Moscovici, the French Minister for Europe, accused the Germans of "neglecting France's interests". German officials have complained that French citizens pay 100 times less per head than Germans to the EU.

as launching his campaign for Britain to join the euro. Mr Blair clearly does not want to be seen as a pushover in Euro-pean negotiations.

His official spokesman left linle leeway for a climbdown. Asked yesterday whether the rebate was non-negotiable he recalled M Chirac's statement and added: "You can put everything on the table, what we are saying is that it [the rebate] is staying on the table from start to finish. The abatement is not part of our negotiating position and will not be."

The rebate is only one of a mass of issues of contention that face EU leaders as they try to grapple with their finances ahead of enlargement - the biggest being the unending battle between the wealthier northern countries who are net contributors to the EU budget and the southerners who are largely net recipients. The summit is a big test for

Gerhard Schröder, the German Chancellor, who is in the chair and facing strong domestic demands to cut back heavily on the German contribution. One EU ambassador said yesterday: "It depends whether he wants to be a German hero or a European hero. It is difficult to see how he can

be both."

Mr Blair will argue today
that speedy and affordable enlargement of the EU is not possible without significant reforms of financing and spending, including changes to the common agricultural policy, a threat that led to 40,000 farmers converging on Brussels on Monday in protest.

The CAP accounts for half of the EU's £60 billion budget. The Prime Minister will back the ambitious target of freez-ing EU spending by 2006, and will make plain that he is open to the idea of "co-financing" farm spending, with national governments taking a much larger share, an idea backed by Germany and opposed by

MORI poll, page 12 Mary Ann Sieghart, page 26 Letters, page 27 Brian MacArthur, page 46



The Minerva airliner in Genoa harbour yesterday after it overshot the airport runway and landed in the water

Four die as plane skids into the sea

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS

FOUR people were killed when an Italian passenger airliner on a flight from Sardinia plunged into the sea while trying to land at Genoa's Cristoforo Colombo airport yesterday.

A spokesman for the Min-erva Airline, which was op-erating for Alitalia, said the twin-turboprop Dornier 328 with 31 people aboard touched down at the air port, but "gusting winds" blew the aircraft through a crash wall at the end of the runway and into the sea. Italian television quoted airport employees as saying the Dornier crashed trying to avoid a forry on the runway. This was denied

by airport management. Among survivors who swam to safety from an age Sardinian swimmers on their way to a contest on the Italian Riviera, Divers recovered the bodies of a female flight assistant and three passengers, including

Lawyers see jailed Kurd

Istanbul: Lawyers defending Abdollah Ocalan were allowed access to him on the prison island of Imrali near Istanbul for the first time vesterday, ten days after the separafist Kurdish leader was captured (Richard Owen writes).

Two hundred demonstrafors sang the Turkish national anthem and threw stones at the bus carrying the two lawyers, who beloog to the Turkish Homan Rights Asso-ciation, the local Governor warned them not to "exceed their hrief by expressing support for the Kurdish cause. Members of the defence eam, appointed by the Istanbul Bar Association, are conerned that Mr Ocalan has been subjected to psychologi-

held next month.

cal pressure while being held in isolation. The trial is expected to be

Russians spin web of intrigue with scandal-mongering on the Net ed by journalists as a way of the information posted on Kogot-2 and sites like it comes zine, describes all exchanges of information in Russia as "dis-

FROM ANNA BLUNDY IN MOSCOW

PERHAPS inspired by Matt Drudge, the American Internet gossip who was the first to report the Monica Lewinsky scandal, Russian gossip-mongers have taken to the Web in an attempt to avoid prosecution, violent retaliation and the notorious proprietor-based bias of the Russian press.

Kogot-2 the newest scandal or kompromat site, is a mass of unsubstantiated rumour regarding Aleksandr Lebed, the Governor of Krasnoyarsk, and Anatoli Bykov, his aluminium tycoon adversary.

Since the end of Communist rule, hundreds of highly trained intelligence personnel have found themselves at a relative loose end and much of

in the form of transcripts of exinformocracy" and says that pertly taped telephone converrumours on the Net are assumed to be serving the intersations - such as that recently ests of a third party. Nobody expects fair play," he says. The people using the Web are publicised between Boris Berezovsky, Russia's best-known billionaire, and Tatyana Dyachenko, daughter of the President. These transcripts appear anonymously in order that their procurers can avoid prosecution under laws that pro-

http://www.krassobykow.com — Kogot 2, scandal site in Russian.

http://www.rambier.ru - Search engine, also Russian-language.

http://gorussia.mtelegco.com — English-language, for visitors.

http://www.anekdot.mi - Joke forum, most popular site.

hibit listening in to private telephone conversations. Anton Nossik, editor of a forthcoming Internet maganot freedom fighters. They are provocateurs playing one poli-tician off against the other." launched in November, was closed down within hours by

The first Kogot site. powerful men offended by allegations of homosexuality. Most of the material is postwhitewashing their sources, Some rumour sites -- www. rumours.ru and Slukhovoye

Okno, advertised on a search engine site, www.rambler.ru
— were alleged to have been es-tablished by former members of the presidential administration. Whoever the shady tigures behind these sites are, the FSB. successor to the KGB. is keen to get its hands on them and on the Internet as a whole. Russia's most popular web-

site is the joke forum www. anekdot.ru, closely followed by the search engine www. rambler.ru and the Englishlanguage site gorussia.miningco.com described as "everything you ever wanted to know about Russia but didn't know was on the Web."

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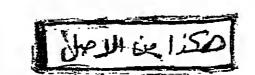
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Clinton women go on TV to reveal the depth of their love and hatred



Broaddrick during interview:

ONE woman says that President Clinton struggles to control his sexual urges but she still feels warmth towards him. The other claims he raped her and says her hatred for him is overwhelming.

Monica Lewinsky and Juanita Broaddrick, women from two different generations united by their stories about the same man, were emotional and tearful as they gave their first television interviews. Neither account is likely to jeopardise Mr Clinton's position, but both heap further huge doses of embarrassment on his bead. Details of the interview Ms Lewinksy has recorded with Barbara Walters, the

Damian Whitworth on the tale of two

sex adventures that haunt the President

terrogators, began to emerge yes-

According to a detailed account of the interview passed to The Washington Post, Ms Lewinsky, asked if Mr Clinton was comfortable with his sexuality, said: "He struggles with it. He tries to hold himself back. His behaviour is in conflict with his own background."

The former White House trainee said she wanted to apologise to Americans for the ordeal the country has been put through because of her affair with the President.

it was very painful." Ms Lewinsky said she did not feel cheap and believed she had been mischaracterised as a bimbo or seductress. She was, instead, a

She said that the relationship had

been good. "Some of it was genu-

ine, some of it was not. But part of

Asked about the incidents when Mr Clinton was speaking on the telephone while she performed oral sex, she said the element of danger had not appealed to her, but there had been excitement.

The content of the interview was leaked as the country was digesting the compelling interview with Mrs Broaddrick, who was weeping as she recounted her alleged rape by Mr Clinton 20 years ago. Mrs Broaddrick, 55, owner of a nursing home, gave a graphic account, punchasted by sobbing, of her claims that she attempted to stop Mr Clinton forcing himself on her in an Arkansas hotel room.

She said she "pushed him away and told him 'No'. I just was very frightened. He was just a vicious, awful person". She added: "It was not consensual. My hatred for him

is overwhelming." Pressed on why she had never reported the inci-dent to the police, Mrs Broaddrick said: "I didn't think anyone would believe me in the world." She said it had been the 1970s, the accusation would have been against the state attorney-general by a woman who was married but having an affair (with her future second busband) and the alleged incident took place in her hotel room:

Mrs Broaddrick said she was speaking out now because there were so many rumours swirling about the incident and "I just couldn't hold it in any longer". She did not want her grandchildren ever to ask her: "Why didn't you

tell what this man did to you? The incident is supposed to have hap-pened in 1978 when Mr Clinton was attorney-general in Arkansas and running for the governorship. Mrs Broaddrick denied the encounter in an affidavit to the Paula Jones sexual harassment case but says now that she did so because she did not want to get involved.

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she did not want to get involved.

Mrs Broaddrick cannot remember the date of the incident. Asked why she attended a Clinton fundraiser shortly afterwards and later took an unpaid job he offered, she said: "I still felt guilty at that time, that it was one fault. By letting him. that it was my fault. By letting him come to the room, I had given him

Texas race murderer sentenced to death

FROM DAMIAN WHITWORTH IN WASHINGTON

as town of Jasper took less than three hours to decide that John "Bill" King should be executed by lethal injection rather than serve a life sentence that would have kept him behind

bars for 40 years. King, 24, was the first white man sentenced to die for killing a black man in Texas since the death penalty was reinstat-

ed in the mid-1970s. He killed James Byrd, 49. by chaining him behind a pick-up truck and dragging him along a country road until he was decapitated in what ap-peared to have been a racist

gang initiation. The jury of 11 whites and one black, rejected the appeals of King's tearful father and decided that he had intended to kill Mr Byrd, would be a danger in the future and they could find no mitigating fac-

tors in the case. In final arguments, prosecu-

THE white supremacist con- tors had argued for the death victed of dragging a black man to an agonising death behind a pick-up truck was sentenced to death last night.

A jury in the small east Tex-

This man will hurt, harm and kill again. We can't allow it," said James Gray, the Jas-

per County District Attorney.
"By giving Bill King a life sentence, you're giving him at least 40 years to catch land kill a black guard ... a Jewish guard ... anybody who's not one of his 'bros' [brothers] or doesn't believe in his satanicracist views," sald Pat Hardy.

the assistant prosecutor. The defence said he would not be a danger if placed in a maximum security prison. "Please don't kill him," Haden "Sonny" Cribbs, the lead defence lawyer, begged the jury. "We all got to quit hating. We all got to quit being racist."

Brack Jones, the assistant defence lawyer, said it was doubtful he could survive that long in the brutal environment of prison. "Whether you vote life



John "Bill" King is led into the Jasper County courthouse yesterday for sentencing. His father, Ronald, below, had breathing difficulties at the session

fence blamed King's racist views on a bad experience he had with black inmate gangs while he was in prison be-tween 1995 and 1997 for a burglary conviction. They said he joined a racist gang, the Confederate Knights of America,

The penitentiary made this young man the way he is and you ought to turn him back to the penitentiary and let them handle it," Mr Jones said.

or death. John King is a dead on Wednesday King's elder-man walking," he said. on Wednesday King's elder-ly and ailing father. Ronald

King, tearfully pleaded for the jury to spare his son's life. Afterwards, members of the Byrd family hugged and wept

Mr Jones said a death sentence would kill King's father too. "Your vote [for death] could take two lives, both of them named King," he said. "I'm sure everybody's heart goes out to Ronald King. He testified and it was very sad. Everybody's heart also goes ther Dames Byrd Srj."

Two alleged accomplices in

Byrd's death - Lawrence Brewer, 31, and Shawn Berry, 24 - also are charged with murder and will be tried later.

Tyson in solitary: Mike Tyson, back in jail for attacking two motorists, has been given 25 days in solitary confinement after a furious outburst in which he hurled a television set at prison guards (Damian Whitworth writes). The former world heavyweight boxing champion will spend 23 days isolation at the Montgomery County Detention Cen-



DNA puts names to fallen US soldiers

FROM IAN BRODGE

THE Pentagon has decided that the custom of honouring America's war dead by burying an unidentified victim in a tomb for unknown warriors is at an end, thanks to DNA.

William Cohen, the US Defence Secretary, has agreed that no new remains will be placed in the Tomb of the Un-knowns at Arlington National Cemetery outside Washing-ton. Last May saw the removal of an "unknown" from the tomb who was then identified by a DNA test as Michael Blassie, an air force fighter pilot shot down near the village of An Loc in Vietnam. The test had not been available when he was interred in the tomb in 1984, 12 years after his death. He has since been reburied with full military bonours.

With the Pentagon now taking DNA samples from everyone who joins the armed forces, there is no likelihood of future wars producing bodies that cannot be Identified. There is still the problem of how to honour a victim from Victnam at Arlington alongside unknowns from the First and Second World Wars and Korea. More than 2,000 Americans are listed as missing from Vietnam.

A relatives' organisation has proposed a plaque near the Tomb of the Unknowns that declares simply: "In honour of those still missing, this crypt remains forever emoty."

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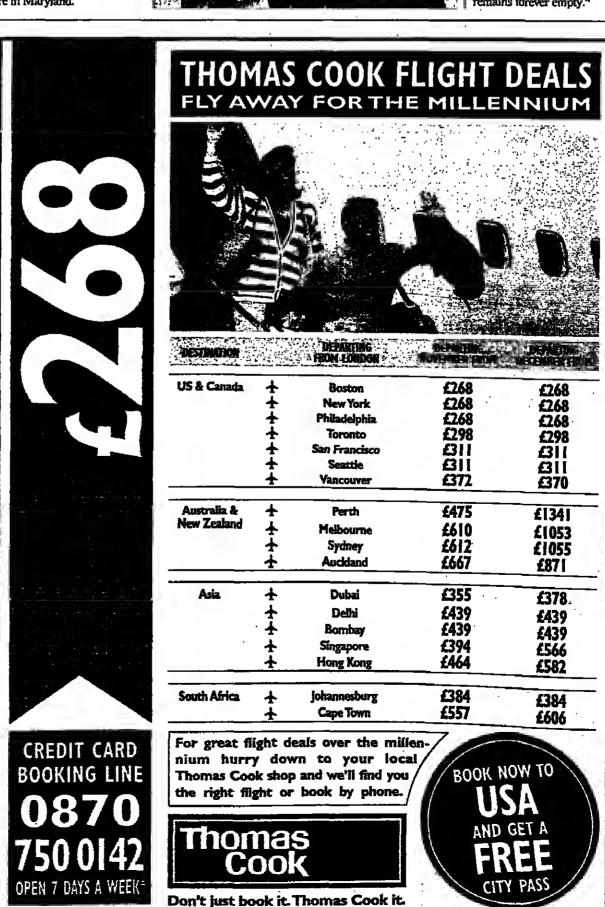
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Yesterday wa asked "are men as capable of bringing up children as woman?"

75% of respondents thought men were as capable of bringing up children as women.



North Korean is freed after 41 years in solitary

FROM JENNIFER VEALE IN SEOUL

LOOKING gaunt but healthy, the man believed to be the world's longest-serving politi-cal prisoner shuffled out of a South Korean jail yesterday after 41 years in solitary confine-

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"I'm very happy to see the light of the world after over 40 years in jail," said Woo Yong Gak, 71, a convicted North Korean spy, as he bowed in thanks to his supporters gathered outside the gates of Tae-jon prison south of Seoul.

Mr Woo was one of 17 elderly convicted spies released yesterday in a sweeping amnesty to mark President Kim Dae Jung's first year in office. They. were jailed for between 29 and 41 years on charges of spying for North Korea, having been passed over in previous amnes-ties as they refused to sign an oath to obey South Korea's National Security Law, which forbids even the slightest ex-

pression of communist sympathies. Though their freedom has been won, where they will spend it depends partly on the fate of a proposal that they be swapped for 300 South Korean prisoners of war held in North Korean labour camps. This week Seoul indicated that the 17 could be sent back

President Kim vowed to repatriate those willing to go if Pyongyang agreed to return the POWs. The North has always denied the existence of POWs on its soil, but in recent months a handful escaped to the South. Mr Woo, born in North Korea, did not rule out returning home. He hoped the two Koreas resolved the issue

to North Korea.

in a humanitarian way. While amnesnes are traditional on major public occasions in Korea, this one has special resonance. Respond-ing to intense criocism from

human rights groups, such as Amnesty International, President Kim, himself a former dissident and prisoner of conscience, waived the oath in the hope that it would burnish his humanitarian credentials.

Some 9,000 people benefited from the amnesty, including 1,508 prisoners who were re-leased. More than 7,000 other offenders had their civil rights restored and criminal records

Rights groups say that Mr Woo languished in solitary confinement inside a 12h square cell since he was caught leading a communist military unit into South Korean territory in 1958, five years after the Korean War. "As I walk out of prison, I feel regret because many other

prisoners remain in jail," he

Leading article, page 27



Woo Yong Gak speaks to reporters after leaving the prison at Taejon yesterday

Brutal face of Seoul shown in political prisoners' suffering

BY DAVID WATTS

WHEN Woo Yong Gak quit prison yesterday he left ehind a world of almost complete isolation in a 12ft square cell, where he was denied numan contact and information of any sort.

The South Korean Govern-ment did everything it could to make him — and hundreds of others — recant their com-munist beliefs. From the 1950s to the 1970s that meant condi-tions of unimaginable harsh-ness. Despite the bitter winters the cramped cells were not heated and prisoners were

subjected to beatings.
Photographs smuggled out in the 1970s showed trussed inmates beaten to a pulp if they did not renounce their beliefs. Thousands, like Mr Woo, never did. and many of them died unknown even to human rights groups. One of Mr Woo's first acts was to thank Amnesty International for bringing the fate of political prisoners to outside attention.

Amnesty researcher. Since they came from the

human contact at all," said an

North there would be no family to visit them. There might be a religious figure or a human rights worker allowed in later, but for many the only contact might be a few words with a guard as they went for

exercise."
In the 1990s conditions are believed to have improved but medical care remained poor. The 16 other men freed from political sentences of between 29 and 41 years served well beyond a Korean life term which is normally 16 to 18 years. Mr Woo's health has held, apart from a stroke which left him with a minor

Despite having a President who was held under the same draconian law. South Koreans can still be arrested for giving aid and comfort to North Korea. Last year 400 such arrests were made.

Mr Woo hopes to go back to see his wife and son in North Korea. But there is little likelihood that they are still alive. The relatives of anyone who is poliocally suspect or an inconvenience are usually executed.

Marcos family will pay out \$150m to 10,000 victims

AFTER a 13-year legal battle. the family of the late dictator, Ferdinand Marcos, agreed yes-terday to pay \$150 million (£100 million) in damages to 10,000 victims of human rights abuses.

The victims' lawyers made simultaneous announcements in Manila and Los Angeles on the preliminary agreement.
US District Judge Manuel
Real in Los Angeles gave his
approval on Wednesday, Robert Swift, the plaintiffs' lawyer.

A final hearing is set for April 14 in Hawaii. The suit



abused his people"

was filed in 1986 in Hawaii on behalf of nearly 10,000 Filipi-nos against Marcos, who fled to exile in Honolulu after his overthrow. "A despot who abuses his people will finally pay." said the statement issued by Mr Swift and Rod Domingo, the victims' Filipino

proved by the Filipioo Government, which accuses Marcos of looting the country and had laid claim to a \$500 million deposit belonging to the Marcos family found in Swiss banks. Mr Dorningo said that the

greement was signed for the Marcos family by Imelda Marcos and her son, Ferdinand Jr. who is a provincial Governor, and by Mr Swift on behalf of

The Marcos family declined to comment. A spokesman for Marcos's son said: "All statements will come from the of-fice of President Estrada."

A Hawaii court had award ed the human rights victims in 1995 damages totalling \$1.9 billion against the Marcoses. They agreed to a compromise amount of \$150 million as it would take years to collect the full amount from the Marcoses. Mr Domingo said. Each victim could get \$16,000.

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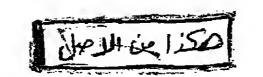
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Starting again: growing weary of my son's little joke about "Who is that lady who sometimes comes in to say goodnight to me?". I started working from home. At this point things began to go wrong. My suit looked absurd on the school run

'I haven't a clue what to wear now I work at home'

gave me a moment's anxiety. In those days I had a job that took me to an office five days a week and I knew exactly what to wear. For weekdays I had a suit by Marella, in a beautiful black and white Donegal to say goodnight to me?" I started working from home. At this point things began to tweed. For weekends I had a pair of D&G hipster jeans and a series of leather jackets and go wrong. Not only did I miss the office jokes and gossip, but little T-shirts. I never had to think for more than 30 sec-I hadn't a clue what to wear. My suit looked absurd on the onds about what I should be school run, but putting on my weekend jeans gave me the disgrowing weary of my son's little joke about "Who is that wasn't really at work at all. lady who sometimes comes in Eventually, I fell back on a

here was a time when

clothes, in the days be-

fore I started to write

about them, never

black jodhpurs and an ancient Conran sweater, upgraded to Caroline Charles's black satin pants and an Amanda Wakeley sweater when I have to go out. It is a comfortable arrangement, but it does not give me the solid sense of who concerting impression that I I am that my Donegal tweed used to bestow.

My problem is not a short-

age of clothes. If you looked in my wardrobe you might think that it was the result of a clothes-swapping between the late Diana Vreeland and Dame Iris Murdoch - lichenous tweed skirts hanging next to amethyst satin embroidered Chinese Jackets: smelly corduray breeches clasped in the arms of a scarlet

suede jacket by Jasper

Conran. When through the rails, it seems to me that it might be best to start again with some grownup, dean-lined clothes with just enough edge to make them interesting.

So I rang the personal shop-

ping managers of three big London stores. I wanted a head-to-toe wardrobe to take me from now into the summer. It had to be crisp enough for work, but relaxed enough for the school run. And I didn't want to spend more than £1,000 (a figure that caused me some anxiety since I had never encountered a personal shopper before and imagined them to be a fearfully grand As I waited for Gabriella Di

Nora in Selfridges' personal shopping department, my confidence was not increased by the sight of a framed Christmas card ("With love from Diana") from the late Diana. Princess of Wales. Good grief. Was Gabriella really going to be able to bend her mind to my rather more modest needs? A moment later she appeared. very soignée in black trousers and mushroom jacket, assuring me earnestly that she will work to any budget, however small. Gabriella is very nice and charmingly unprecious about fashion. Her background is in languages — she is half-Italian. one of four sisters, all more interested in clothes than she was. Her family, she says, thinks it a hoot

that she has ended up advis-ing people on clothes. Our first task was to fill in a form with my preferences of style and colour. Then she took a Polaroid for her records and set off to trawl the shop floor for what I had decided I needed most - a versatile coat, like a pea jacket, some-thing that would do for town or country; and a pair of flat

was left behind with a cafetière of excellent coffee, a plate of fancy biscuits and a heap of glossy magazines, through which I flicked guiltily, not quite able to get used to the idea of shopping by proxy.

Ten minutes later she reappeared with a pile of boxes and an armful of coats, and we moved to the dressing room. soothingly decorated in magnolia and blond wood, with bottled water, tissues and a teddy bear pin cushion. It was a tricky time of year - the fag end of the winter sale shading into the beginning of the summer stock, but one of the pairs of boots was a hit: a Robert Clergerie design in glossy black calf, reduced from an

eye-watering £355 to £142.

The coats were more difficult. There were masses of them, by Nicole Farhi, John Rocha, Kenzo et al. in a dizzying variety of styles and colours, including one by Guy La-roche in a sort of brilliant green Astroturf, but nothing that quite corresponded to what I had in mind. A soft green and black tweed redingote by Strenesse was so love-

CUTTING EDGE

I had imagined personal shoppers to be a fearfully grand breed

ly, and so much reduced, that I nearly bought it anyway, but then I remembered my resolution not to impulse-buy, and, with Gabriella's blessing, refrained. Clutching my boots the foundation. I hoped, of a brilliant new look - I set off for Harvey Nichols. Harvey Nichols's personal

shopping department is very highly evolved indeed — a sort of Vatican City within the main shop's Rome. Here the manager, Christina Abbott bright, young and enthusiastic - counsels not just individual clients, but film and television companies and corporate dients who like to send their female staff along for a fashion show while the men fire paintballs at each other on the Sus-

sex Downs. There is, too, a kind of "creche", where the metropolitan girl can dump her boyfriend on a comfortable sofa in front of a telly while she debates the merits of Tocca versus Chloé. As with Selfridges, the whole store, not just the fashion departments, Terre mules, E79. is covered, and clients' prefer liked it all so much that ences and purchases are kept on file My details taken, and forti-

fied with coffee and biscuits, I moved to the large, comfortable dressing room to see what Christina had pre-selected for me. Everything looked lovely - elegant but relaxed, just as I had hoped. But there was a fascinating gap between what looked good on the rail and what worked on the body. I have always thought of Donna Karan as the queen of the working wardrobe, so it was a shock to try on her long, unlined fanned crepe skirt, £420, and cashmere cardigan, £370, and find that I looked a mess nothing hanging quite right, and a knicker line of borrid visibility.
Things were better at the oth-

er end of the rail - sharply taitored pants and a long, navy cotton skirt by Michael Kors were perfect, and so was the coat, £410, by Cheiken and Capone, in navy twill, lined in a beautiful gold-shot blue that matched a cashmere vest and cardigan by Cashmere Studio. At this point, I should have hollered for Christina, who

had tactfully disappeared while I tried on Individually, I loved all these pieces, but I couldn't make the skirt and pants work with the coat. For second time that day, I hadn't managed to equip my-self with the ideal workingfrom-home wardrobe.

Determined to make one final effort, I arrived at Dickins & Jones to meet the personal shopping suite manager, Carolyn Robertson, Dickins & Jones is not the first place I would think of to shop for clothes. Whenever I visit I find it confusing and slightly stuffy. Carolyn, however, is the reverse of stuffy. She is tall and slender, with a bone-shattering handshake — rather like the remote and lovely senior prefect on whom one had a crush in the third form Laid out with military precision in a large, white-painted dressing room, with two mirrors

and a flirty screen to get undressed behind, was an astonishing collection - trousers, shoes, bags, even a pair of Calvin Klein sunglasses

The effect was wonderfully enticing - like a dressing-up box - and, as with a dressingup box, one seemed to have permission to become, if only temporarily, someone else: cool and sophisticated in Armani's navy canvas drawstring trousers, £105, and Ralph Lauren's flag-embroidered denim jacket, El25: or sharp and sexy in Michael Kors's navy stretch manador pants, with a white Tshirt and white kid Pied a

it was hard to discard anything, but eventually I narrowed it down to the Kors pants, his deverty casual navy cotton "apron" dress. £160, the white mules and a petal-pink pashmina, £185. I could have added Whistles' stunning silky dark-blue rain-coat, which packs away to nothing in its own little duffel bag, £115, a pale-blue silk and cashmere twinset from Cashmere by Design, and a black nylon body bag with its own metal-backed notebook, £21, without breaking my budget. It was exactly what I'd wanted. But then — disaster. The Kors pants were too big. Had they the smaller size in stock? They had not "Oh no," I wailed, my capsule wardrobe about to dissolve. "But," said Carolyn, "we do alterations. Free of charge." So the question is, would I

repeat this exercise for real in my own time? Admitting that she needs help with her ward-robe is a big deal for a girl — rather like a chap agreeing that he could do with a few remedial driving lessons. I pride myself on my ability to mix chainstore and designer into a look that is unmistakably my own. But none of the consultants I saw tried to impose her idea of style on me. All were responsive to my budget and needs, and each came up with at least one thing I might not have found for myself. As with dailies and vicars, I think it is definitely worth shopping around for a clothes consultant, not just settling for the first person you see, or the one who happens to come with the store where you usually shop.

I don't suppose I'll ever be the sort of person who orders an entire season's wardrobe in a single, marathon session. But If I ever again feel myself slipping into a sartorial Slough of Despond, I shall get straight on the phone to Carolyn, the beautiful head prefect of Dickins & Jones's personal shopping service.

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The story of the story of the film

f you go out tonight to watch You're Got Mail, and if you peer carefully at the credits, you'll notice that by the time you leave the cinema all the restaurants have shut and the babysitter's bill has risen by £15.

This is because movie credits acknowledging everyone involved in the simplest project have grown far too long — a conclusion I reached after having a conversation with my friend William in New York last week, and which I fleshed out during my British Airways flight home as (dressed in Brooks Bros shirt. Paul Smith jacket i sipped a Bells whisky served by the cabin

stewardess, Julie.

At one time credits were so brief that the two stars of a movie might seek legal arbitration over whose name should appear first. But now Hollywood is having to settle disputes between the most incidental people on the set (First gofer: "I fetched more coffees." Second gofer: Yeah, but you always skimped on the Danishes, and my billing should reflect that!").

The purpose of lengthy credits must be that they enable directors to judge the success of their latest movie with test audiences. If the audience heads for the exits as soon as the words "The End come on screen, they thought the film stank. If they stay for the names of the supporting actors, they liked it. If they're still in their seats when it says "Miss Paltrow's nail varnish supplied by . . .", they want to invest in your next movie. But bow have we let ourselves become used as emotional barome-

ters for Hollywood producers?

Mary Pickford — in the first incident of a dispute over screen billing reaching a courtroom — petitioned to have her name put on the screen after years of appearing simply as "Little Mary". The opening credits of Casablanca acknowledged the actors, the producer, the director, a dialogue director, a make-up artist, orchestral arrangements: in just over a minute it's all over. It finishes with just "The End".

Then things started getting out of hand. Steven Spielberg's Jurassic Park credited nearly 800 different people, organisa-tions and places — including "The Island And People Of. Kanaî", Kanaî being the Hawaiian island where the film was partly shot, but where the local lawyers weren't savvy enough in the ways of Hollywood to insist that - as a mark of respect for the natural beauty of this remote island — a full chemical breakalso be included in the film's closing acknowledgements.

Those moviegoers who felt unable to leave their seats at the end of Titanic as they tried to solve the mystery that had transfixed all who saw the movie ie, had Kate Winslet put on weight or not? - could chew over this teasing conundrum. through seven minutes of screen credits: these listed hundreds of people, including an etiquette coach, the Mexican Minister of



JOE JOSEPH

ON THE SIDE

Tourism, the London jeweller Asprey, a children's guardian, a drapes master, a Slovakian three-year-old boy, a first-class husband, and steward No. 4 (no, not him! You're thinking of steward No. 3. There's no point if you are not going to concentrate).

Directors have grown smart enough to realise that audiences

can stomach only so much, and no longer want to wait to see who sang a particular song on the soundtrack if it means have ing also to scroll through all 52 clauses and sub-clauses of that band's recording contract with Sony. That's why, in Peter and Bobby Farrelly's film There's Something About Mary, the credits are interleaved with outtakes. Jackie Chan, whio has just brought out his latest film, Rush Hour, keeps us seated by showing the credits against a backdrop of stuets that went amns ingly wrong. For A Bug's Life, Disney created special animated out-takes to leaven the credits.

ut audiences have hecome too sophisticated even for this. We need more powerful incentives to keep us glued than clips from the cutting room floor. In Shake speare In Love, the credits should include information such as Gwyneth Pairrow's home phone number, or details of any film-set romances/tiffs. Five minutes into the credits of Titunic we deserved a line telling us, "No, it's just the camera And why limit it to films? Goverament statements could carry

the one he scoffed at when the Tories put it forward in 1996". Before I go could I just thank the London Borough of Tower Hamlets for its co-operation in providing production facilities for this article. To Klix Vending Services for coffee. There was no best boy. The article was printed

in Times Romanvision.

similar titbits to keep us glued

("Yes, Jack Straw's new policy is

Sadly, premature babies often die, as Richard Miles discovered when he lost his son

We do not know what to say as we stand beside his tiny grave

ing our son. He was transferred to

HEN your child dies it is natural to want to blame someone. The feelings of the parents

whose prematurely born babies died during trials of a new type of

ventilator at a North Staffordshire

hospital are quite understandable. The harsh-truth, however, is that

a significant number of premature babies do die despite the best

efforts of the medical staff. I know

because it happened to us. Our son.
Oliver, died last November after
entering this world three-and-ahalf months too early.
Before the huge advances of med-

ical technology in the 20th century,

women routinely lost their chil-

dren, many premanurely. Even today, five in 100 babies are born

before gestation is complete. Most

Doctors still lack an adequate

explanation for premature births. Roughly half of such cases can be

attributed to three main causes:

alcoholism or drug addiction of the

mother, or the conception of twins.

In our case, none of these condi-tions applied. Four months after

Oliver's birth, the doctors have

been unable to give us a reason for .

his premature arrival. My wife, Jacqui, had developed an infection in

her womb, and when that happens

the body's natural defence system

It was every expectant parent's worst nightmare. I was in the office

when the panicked phone call came

through: Jacqui's waters had bro-

ken outside Great Portland Street

Tube station in London. The due

date was not until late February.
Luckily, Jacqui was with a friend, who took her by taxi to Uni-

versity College Hospital, Central London. The doctors confirmed

that her waters had broken, but

said that labour had not yet begun. If she could just hold off for even 12

Jacqui struggled val-iantly for almost 48 hours, allowing the doc-

tors to give her two doses

of steroids to aid the

development of the

child's lungs. The odds

were not good: 24 weeks

was the "cusp of viabili-

ty", said the consultant. At this point of develop-ment, only four in ten ba-

bies survive the delivery. By late afternoon of the

second day; Jacqui had

entered labour. Unfortu-

nately, her temperature

rocketed and she con-

tracted a raging fever.

We had to open the win-dows and brandish elec-

tric fans to bring her tem-

perature down to a rea-

sonable level. In the corri-

dor, the midwife told me

that the baby would not

Nevertheless, my wife

had to go through the

labour and at 9.26pm on

November 1 — rather

spookily, my own birth-day and within 30 min-

utes of the time of my

delivery - Oliver was

born. Although he was

grey, limp, voiceless and

weighed less than a bag

urges the expulsion of the unborn

survive but many do not.

miensive care. There, under ultraviolet lights and accompanied by the airline "ping" of the computers. I had the first real opportunity to see my son. At 24 weeks a baby's skin is not fully formed, so the nurses had stretched a plastic tent over Oliver to retain the moisture. But beneath

the plastic was a perfectly formed, divine looking little boy. Then began the rollercoaster ride of our lives: would Oliver's heart and hings be strong enough to keep him alive? We forced ourselves to view each successive hour as a bonus - after all, no one had expected him to make it through the delivery — while deep down we were willing him, praying for him to survive this ordeal so that he

might stay with us. A great many children born so prematurely die within 48 hours of delivery. Some do not survive the move downstairs to University College Hospital's neonatal unit, one of the best, if not the best, in the UK. Their hearts fail or, more commonly, their lungs pack up, even

with the best ventilator. Oliver survived this initial period - both his heart and lungs were strong - but tests revealed that he

had suffered acute brain damage either during his time in the womb or during delivery. As the days passed, the nature of this damage became apparent and our joy at his

survival evaporated.

Even a baby who stays in the womb for the whole nine months does not have a fully developed brain: it takes another 12 months to

Unlike politics, sex and religion, infant mortality is strictly off-limits, the last conversational taboo

assume its final form. In Oliver's case, the parts of the brain that control movement were so hadly damaged that they would never recover.

If he survived, he would never be able to walk, he would never do anything that normal children do. not even hold a knife and fork. He

might never have spoken. At the same time, the doctors discovered that his bowels were perfo-

rated and that he had contracted NEC (necrotising enterocolitis), a potentially fatal condition and a common killer of premature babies. In these circumstances, the doctors asked us to think carefully about whether it was right to keep Oliver alive by artificial means. In their opinion, the kindest act would

be to let him go.

After much soul-searching, we decided that the doctors were right. My greatest fear was that Oliver would have a healthy mind trapped in a useless body. In any event, as the post-mortem examina-tion would later show, our boy would almost certainly have died

from the bowel condition. We had him christened on the ward and then, on the following Sunday, almost seven days after he came into this world, the medical staff unphugged Oliver from the life-support machinery. We held him - our first real opportunity to do so without the encumbrance of the ventilator — while he died.

Neither Jacqui nor I recalls being asked to sign a consent form for any of Oliver's treatments, although a researcher gently asked if she might monitor his brain patterns for a study. We agreed. Frankly, we would have leapt at any

if they thought that it would im-prove Oliver's chances of survival. As for the medical staff, both doctors and nurses were superb, doing their utmost for Oliver while offer-

ing us tremendous emotional sunport. They were visibly upset by his, death: one or two were in tears as we said our last goodbyes. No one really knew what to say:
to us. Many people lacked the requisite language. While politics, religion and sex are now acceptable
topics of conversation, infant mor-

tality is strictly off-limits, the last conversacional taboo.

Some people said "never mind, you'll have other children". The point was that we wanted this child. Others decided to deal with

us as if nothing had happened.

here were exceptions. Our best friends, Clare and Ant, were pillars of strength throughout the ordeal, often bedding down in the hospital to be with us. At work, our colleagues were also very supportive and understanding, particularly Jacqui's associates. Many were so moved that they made charitable donations to the neonatal unit. The best simply said "we are thinking"

We were both surprised, however, to learn just how many other people had experienced a similar tragedy. The director of a City pubic relations agency confided to me that he had lost his first child in similar circumstances. My father: received letters of condolence from colleagues who had been through a

similar ordeal. We have found ourselves members of a club to which no one willingly signs up: but there is help out there. A small national charity known as SANDS (Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Society) runs a counselling and support service for

bereaved parents. It is particularly interested in hearing from fathers whose babies have died or were stillborn.

More disturbingly, much of the research carried outby neonatal units is funded from charitable donations... rather than from the Government. As doctors admit, they still do not know enough about newborn babies. The nursing crisis has also led to a shortage of intensive-care beds for babies who are born prema-

turely.

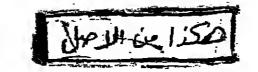
If things had gone to plan, Oliver would have been born about now. Instead he lies under a yew tree in a North London cem-: etery, surrounded by other feel guilty because we do not visit him regularly. We know of other parents who go once a week. But the what to say when we stand beside his tiny grave, and it is just too painful. instead, the handful of

pictures we have of Oliver are proudly displayed around our flat. Some people might think we are strange, even morbid, to do so, but he was and always will be our first child and our first son. As the Ancient Romans believed: if my name is on someone's lips, I



of sugar, the paediatri-The loss of an infant is every expectant parent's nightmare. Doctors admit they know too little about newborn babies cians succeeded in reviv-

WEEKEND Plymouth Ashford Glasgow Erskine Rugby/Northampton Basingstoke Gloucester Sheffield Birmingham Stoke-on-Trent Swindon Birmingham Airport Havant Birmingham City Hull Taumton **Fantastic Ipswich** Cardiff Teesside Peterborough Wakefield Carlisle Lancaster Stevenage Leeds/Selby Waisali* Covento Crovdon Leicester Warrington/Runcom seasonal offer Derby/Burton Lincoln Washington Edinburgh Liverpool Leeds/Bradford Cambridge Leeds/Brighouse Milton Keynes Bexley Maidstone/Sevenoaks Hemel Hempste Newcastle-upon-Tyne Erentwood per room from Hull Marina Manchester York £59 Bristol Cardiff City Norwich **Nottingham City** Colchester Nottingham/Derby LONDON Dublin (IR) Portsmouth Fareham Preston Famborough Reading Gatwick £39 Hampstead £69 Rochester Glasgow Airport Heathrow £39 Kensington £69 South Mimms Glasgow City Guildford Southampton £69 Bloomsbury Regent's Park Haydock Southampton/Eastleigh High Wycombe Leisure clubs with swimming pools at many hotels Posthouse TERMS & CONDITIONS: Prices shown are pur more based on one night stay, single or doubt he cost in conjunction with any other offer or special pro-0345 40 40 40 fastionse hopes progres the right to suspend this special offer occupancy, fully inclusive of tax and service. Offer available at listed at any time without prior ratios. Any confirmed or guaranteed hotels to 31st March 1999. Stay Friday, Samurlay or Sunday night. bookings concelled after Zym on day of unival well be liable to regions subject to ambibility with a builted number of more to these promotional rates. Bookings to be made via recoveried charge of the that pickets leaves. Central Reservations prior to animal at hotal. These offers causes.



Young, free and antisingle currency

You can be pro-European and anti-EMU — it's the third way

he first and last time that I knocked on doors and pushed leaflets through letterboxes for a politi-cal cause was in 1975. The occasion was the referendum occasion was the referendum on Europe and, as a fervently pro-European teenager, I was campaigning for Britain to stay in the Common Market. Four years later, in the 1979 election, I despised both main

parties with equal vigour, so did not feel inclined to hit the streets. Since then, as a jour-nalist, I have always felt my job was to comment on political campaigns, not join them. So why, on Monday, will I be sharing a platform with David Owen and many others who fought for a "yes" vote in 1975, to argue for Britain to stay out of the euro? Partly pecause the issue is so important that I feel a duty to do

something. But also because, as someone who thinks of herself as moderate, reasonably thoughtful, and pro-European, I am fed up with EMU opponents being caricatured as swivel-eyed xenophobes. Only this week, Tony Blair mocked the "Thatcher-Portillo-Benn axis" of those who don't believe Britain should

join the single currency. Ideo-logically. I have as little in common with those three as he has; and so do the other members of the group that we are launching. We are all pro-European; none of us is on the far Right and, apart from the odd "wer" Tory, the rest of us are apolitical, centrist or

centre-left. We are modern and internationalist, forward-looking and constructive about the EU. We don't care whose face is on our banknotes. But we very dubious about the case for EMU membership. Initially I s

ed Britain's member-ship of the ERM. Like many only to be asked to "level up" pro-Europeans, I had not thought very hard about the consequences, but it looked as if we might end up with lower interest rates and lower inflation. More important, f looked at who was against membership and who was for; and knew which club I instinctively wanted to join. Only when the fatal consequences of German unification became clear - pushing up interest rates and plunging Britain into a

deep recession - did I realise how damaging such a system was destined to be. I should, of course, have realised earlier. Indeed, I did

start to have theoretical reservacions soon after we joined. But it took some time for the intellectual doubts to overcome the emotional enthusiasm. If I was pro-European. how could I be anti-ERM? This question torments Mr

Blair. He cannot reconcile his pro-European instincts with a rational scepticism about the wisdom of trying to de divergent economies together. And it explains the superficial enthusiasm of many others in the Centre and Centre-Left of politics. They don't want to be regarded as the kind of people who would object to EMU.

But it is only in poliocs that such a problem arises. In journalism, for instance, there are many commentators and economics editors who share my view: my colleagues Anatole Kaletsky and Janet Bush; Martin Wolf of the Financial Times: Larry Elliott of The Guardian; Anne McElvoy of The Independent. None is right-wing or anti-European. Indeed, The Guardian ran an editorial on Wednesday that

expressed my views exactly.

Even inside politics, I find many Labour sympathisers, some in the upper reaches of Government. But this is the scepticism that dares not speak its name. It is not cool to come out against EMU unless you are from the old Left.

So, if current politicians are

not allowed to speak out, the rest of us should. Our group, which includes former politicians of all parties, may appeal to people with doubts about EMU who want to feel the state of the they are in reasonable company. They may not be Tories. They may, like me, approve of many other forms of Europe-an co-operation, such as An-glo-French defence collaboration or the Schengen agree-ment on open borders. They don't want to be associated with those whose real wish is

for Britain to leave the EU. But they remember the ERM experience and under-stand the risks of an economy being subject to wholly unsuitable interest rates. They fear the creation of high unemployment in some countries, with no remedies available to national governments. They worry about lack of accountabili-ty: if our politicians mess up the econo-

> them out at the next election; if the European Central Bank does, there is nothing we can do. And then there are the pressures for harmonisation in the rest of the economic sphere. We have not gone through two dec-

my, we can throw

our tax rates or social security costs so that other EU countries need not feel the pain. Inside the single currency, such pressure would be nearimpossible to resist. Outside, there is a better chance. If the Euro-II want harmonisation. fine - as long as it's confined

The Europe that our group wants to see is flexible, democratic, outward-looking and competitive, recognising national differenc-es but working together when co-operation makes sense. That is the modern approach: it is the cumbersome, topdown, forced integration of EMU that is old-fashioned.

So why should Britain's adoption of the euro be inevitable, as so many in our MORI tability to build, so that, when the referendum comes, we feel that we have to bow to destiny. But the Bridsh people can

easily resist this momentum. The Prime Minister will hold a referendum only if he is long as the public show opposition, he will not risk it. This is the real exercise of people power. If you have qualms about EMU, express them. We can overcome.

maryann.sieghart@the-times.



Fat Control-freaks

est nationalised indus-British Rail It is now the Strategic Rail Authority. Same difference. Tony Blair, speaking at yesterday's rail "summit in Lon-don, tried calling it the Third Way, a people's partnership, a deeply mov-ing on-time experience. But we knew what he was about. Introducing the SRA's new boss, Sir Alastair Morton, to a battery of ministers, civil servants, regulators, consultants, lobbyists and even a few railwaymen, he could not resist giving a glimpse of the new rail order. It was a land of lower fares, higher investment, more customer care and better punctuality. He never mentioned profit. Baroness Thatcher always held that BR was a privatisation too far. Mr Blair

agrees. BR is dead: long bve BR. After a burst of post-privatisation energy, helped by the boom, Britain's new railway has hit desperate trouble. Rail management is an art as well as a science, the art of the Great Excuse. After the wrong sort of leaves and the wrong sort of snow, benighted passengers are now being offered "the wrong sort of privatisation" to excuse a declining quality of service. For once the excuse is just. The sort of privatisation invented by John Major's Government, against the advice of every expert, has been an industrial fiasco. Known to aficionados as the Robson-Blackwell plan, after the two officials who forced it through.

privatisation era. Administering the bureaucratised layers of prices, contracts and regulations has cost a fortune and offered managers, and station staff. every opportunity to pass the buck to others. The chief purpose was to strengthen Treasury control over subsidy. It did. But the price was the Treasury paying the private sector twice what it was paying BR, and for roughly the same level of service. Anywhere but in Whitehall such a mess would have been cause for a public inquiry and heads rolling. Yesterday's summit was an ill-concealed but frantic rescue bid. It had Mr Blair and John Prescott firmly in the driving cab and Sir Alastair

it has been the greatest failure of the

in the brake van. Wherever old BR hands gather these days, the conversation turns to the same theme: what a glorious railway they would now be running, given the current level of subsidy, booming revenue and The Government's need to rig the

railways will cost us all dear

has to bail out the now chaotic

London Underground privatisation.

Yesterday the company became the effective cornerstone of Mr Prescott's "new railway architecture".

The old franchises are now virtually dead. Mr Blair in his speech

warned the companies not to think

that "we have to

wait until the fran-

Mr Prescott added

would be given pow-ers to act as "an operator of last re-

sort" if the private

firms refused to do

There is to be that

old planner's stand-

by, a railway ten-

year plan. As a first

step, the railway

would get 800 new

drivers, 500 new vehicles, a "joint hit

blackspots, and de-

tabling, ticketing and passenger

information. Negotiations on new

franchises will begin at once. In other words, the railway operating

companies are now mere manage-

ment subcontractors to Sir Alastair.

Their performance and their profit

depend on continuing negotiations

with a government agency, with minute performance indicators rul-

ing their every step. Such contracts

are really no different from those

which BR's operating divisions had with the BR board under nationali-

sation. They just cream off more of the surplus for private sharehold-

than that suggested by Mr Prescott

ers. Such is neo-nationalisation.

as they were told.

performance.

freedom to plan long-term. Some of this may be rose-tinted speciacles. But everything the critics predicted about "the wrong sort of privatisation" has come true. By forcing train operaters to be short-term rentiers not owning trains, stations, track. anything - the Treasury privatisaanything — the Heashry privatisa-tion plan stripped them of any long-term quality incentive. Every-one predicted that the new compa-nies would simply cut costs, lay off staff, raise fares and "sweat the franchise". With no guarantee be-

yond seven years, they would be comto do otherwise Likewise with Railtrack, the infrastructure firm. It was constituted to have every interest in minimising investment and none in boosting capacity. It is a private firm with shareholders. Railtrack's true cuspassenger, nor even 25 train firms, but the regulator who fixes its charges and thus its profit.

The new rail boss-

es duly did what was expected; they lity, phone-booking fees, staff re-cruitment and breakfast prices. This month the central dogma of rail privatisation, "vertical separation", cracked when Railtrack entered a

treat Railtrack as a public corpo-

repainted their trains, laid off drivers, raised fares and cut corners. Service quality declined, but since trains are quasi-monopolies whose revenue depends on the state of the economy, nobody has gone bankrupt. As a result the final prediction has come true. Ministers have found the whole business intolerable. They have leant on the regulators, bullied the companies and, as of yesterday, indicated that they would effectively renege on the franchise contracts. Mr Prescott has already intervened in matters as diverse as holiday fares, punctua-

The Blaime euphemism for neo-nationalisation is partnership. But partnership existed under the old nationalisation. It was called an commercial partnership with Virgin arm's length relationship between ministers and boards. Such a relationship was far more distant on the West Coast main line. Already Mr Prescott has begun to

yesterday. Modern ministers do not know the meaning of arm's length. They are in the rail business up to their necks. And the rail business will have to perform or they will be taking the blame next time, not If I was Virgin Rail or Connex or Great Western or Chiltern right now, I know what I would do I More guarantees will be needed if it

would do exactly as I was told by renewal time, I would sting them all the way to the bank. Ministers will not want neo-nationalisation to deliver worse trains than Tory privatisation did. Sir Alastair has his marching orders and they are to deliver ministers a better railway. As the City knows, Sir Alastair's railways do not come cheap. The taxpayers will pay, and through the nose. They will pay for new franchises. They will pay for new trains. They will pay for Railtrack's accelerated investment: If Mr Blair that Sir Alastair and Mr Prescott want to call summits and boast their bravado, they must show results. Speeches are cheap. Results are expensive.

> nder British Rail, Britain's railways were the most cost-efficient in Europe. The per head subsidy in 1990 was £13, against £36 in France, £46 in Germany and £95 in Italy. At that time, the industry was ripe for privatisation, but if ever there was a candidate for keeping it sumple", the railway was it. Frantic for more control, the Treasury made it complicated. Faced with this disaster, the Government should be overruling Whitehall and doing what might sensibly have been done at the start of this adventure. That was to decentralise BR under a single corporation (as with BT or British Gas) or down to proper regional companies owning all their

> assets on long-term contracts.
> Instead ministers have opted for the most centralised control of rail policy in peacetime. They have brought both strategy and responsibility for performance within the ambit of Whitehall. It is possible that they could cheat history and make the railway a success— possible, but unlikely. One thing I predict for sure: rail subsidies will creep up towards the European norm. Every Thomas wants to be a tank engine. Every minister wants to be a Fat Controller. But this time it will cost dear, very dear.

comment@the-times.co.uk



Tatton corner

STROKE play on the wrong side of the wicket is the latest obsession of Christine Hamilton: her "eagerly awaited" novel will be replete with gay sex, "based on a friend". As it cannot be her manly hubbie, Neil. who is it? "It will be quite obvious when it comes out," she promises.
"Gafia" mates include Harvey
Proctor (a commercial shirt-seller
as owner of a men's retailer) and Michael Brown, another confirmed ex-Tory MP and fellow alumnus of the No Turning Back Group.

the No Turning Back Group.

Tation, set to wave farewell to
Martin Bell, will be agog. Tory
Central Office is determined to vet
candidates to avoid a "rogue" local
standing — shorthand, I am told,
for a step-in for Sebastian Coe.
Christine has told chums she will
light Seb — unless Michael Portillo. fight Seb — unless Michael Portillo, another Hamilton chum, stands. Applications will be opened this

William Hague wants the parliamentary future of Coe — his chief of staff — sorted out soon; but, I learn, the old athlete's insistence on living in Surrey rather than Tatton has gone down like a stale chip butty.

WHILE Donatella Versace asks writte Donatetal versuce tasks
Boy George to provide the funky
sounds at her fashion shows,
a newcomer to the rag trade has
relied on ladies of the Corston
Women's Institute. As models stumbled down the catwalk at London Fashion Week (below). Russell Sage played Jerusalem



get stuck into all sorts of things," says Liz McDowall of the WI near Bath: "It's not all jam-making."

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HOW not to run a party by Harvey Nichols. Guests at London Fashion Week were locked out as the joint was "not ready", so transvestites roamed Sloane Street. Then designers were left waiting for lifts while a flunky worried if "Bryan Ferry plus one" was arriving. Then the happy throng had to queue by the cheese counter for an hour to dump coats (later lost).

Huge black men clad in loin cloths gyrated, exposing that which, in recent years, they have mostly kept covered. Deadbeats boasted how they made London cool. As a tottering model said: "I've seen better organisation in Naples

SHIRLEY MACLAINE has a new chum: Mikhail Gorbachev, with whom she chatted at the Kremlin's gala opening of The Barber of Siberia. The slushy tale attracted Yevgeni Primakov, who faces a less romantic prospect — Robin Cook when he pops over to Moscow next

and had more fun in Warsaw."



month. The Foreign Secretary will bear gifts: eight specially bound volumes of Pushkin's notebooks, prepared by the Prince of Wales.

ETON is encouraging its pupils to become rock stars - as long as they do not make too much noise. Bands can make as much noise as they like without disturbing anyone," says Raiph Allwood, the school's director of music, commenting on its new rock studio and drum room. "But we don't want the boys to damage their hearing by playing too loud, so the studio is equipped with a monitor which cuts out if the decibels go strat-ospheric." Bad luck Prince William.

PARANOIA on the sad game show circuit. After my friend Matthew Parris showed that Vanessa and Countdown are fixed (question: so why are they still so bad?) other programmes are running scared programmes are running scarea of our "outing" specialist. He has been told that he is no longer required by Channel 4s If I Ruled the World. Say producers: "We just, er, double booked and, um wanted a woman."

'Nonsense can be poetry — poetry is what survives the crying, even if only one person thinks it poetic'

7 hat is poetry, pray? Well, as the schoolboy wrote, poetry is the stuff that poets write. And as Sterne put it in Tristram Shandy, "Sir, what is poetry?" "Why, Sir, it is much easier to say what it is not. We all know what light is: but it is not easy to tell what it is." The Times Literary Supplement is revisiting this old enigma of the definition of poetry. A correspondent from the poetical place name of Jawa Barat, Indonesia. has written asserting that of the 13 objects published in the TLS as poems" since he became a subscriber, in his opinion five qualify as poems, five do not, and

three are borderline. He asserts: "One prime qualification of a poem has to be, doesn't it, that it makes some sense? And as an example of what he counts as poetry, he cites the magical line, "The first time ever I saw your face I thought the

diligent search, I have been unable to locate his spell. Poetry is Protean. Like Proteus, the Old Man of the Sea, it comes in all shapes and sizes. One man's metre is another man's Post-Modernism. There is colour poetry which paints for crimson petal, now the white . . . " Then there is the poetry of music

without meaning, as with much of Swinburne. "Pale beyond porch and portal./ Crown'd with calm leaves she stands . . Distinguish between "porch" and "portal", writing on only one side of the paper at a time, and explain what difference it would make if she were crowned with

agitated leaves. Poets come metaphysical and intellectual, like Donne and Pope. Pope attacked the nonsense of "inferior" poets in The Dunciad. And poets such as

sun rose in your eyes." In spite of Keats and Tennyson come romantic and musical, loved more for the beauty of Howard their language than the depth of their thought. But to say that a poem must to ignore the peculiarly English genre of nonsense poetry. in Lewis Carroll's logical nonsense in

such poems as Jabbetwocky, and in Edward Lear's Yonghy-Bonghy-Bo and The Pobble Who Has No Toes, sadness lies just below the surface of the nonsense. The genre was practised by those who were not just professional nonsense writers. Dr Johnson, with skittishness

unexpected by those who think of

Sam only as the Great Pomposo

of Literature, wrote it: "I put my

hat upon my head/ And walk'd

another man/ Whose hat was in his hand." Ezra Pound's translation of a fragment of Greek love poetry: "Spring ... Too long ... Gongula" (thar's it) leaves something to the imagination. T.S. Eliot.

"O the moon shines bright on Mrs Porter/ And on her daughter/ They wash their feet in soda water. . .", and W.H. Auden. "England our cow! Once was a ladyis she now?", did it. But their emigrnatic "nonsense" is as poetic as Ecclesiastes, "Or ever the silver cord be foosed, or the golden bowl be broken."

James Joyce is (in part) a poet of nonsense. "Under her brella mid piddle med puddle she

ninnygoes nannygoes nancing by." Young girl with an umbrella into the Strand,! And there I met tripping along a wet road? The Liffey (unda) at Dublin rippling down to the sea? Those and several other ambiguities characterise his many layered work.

n a brilliant lecture on Tuesday, Par Easterling, Regius Professor of Greek at Cambridge, was wondering why we had taken on the genre of ancient tragedy, but abandoned its companion of satyric drama. Perhaps the nonsense of poetic fools, such as the tragic clown in Lear, is an echo down the millennia of those grotesque old dramas, heightening the tragetly by juxtaposing absurdity.

Some nonsense has always been poetry. Perhaps the increasing cult of the absurd can be put down to our existential angst and loss of sense of man's purpose in the Universe. There is an alarm-

ing distrust of the rational, ie, in the popularity of batty superstitions to do with food, health and politics. Note the sublime nonsense of e.e. cummings, Monty Python, Jacques Tati and lonesco. Remember how Beaumarchais caught the paradox of life in The Barber of Seville: "Je me presse de rire de tout, de peur d'être obligé d'en pleurer." I make myself laugh at everything for fear of having to cry about it. Compare that other French nonsense rune. "One must laugh before one is happy, for fear of dying without ever having laughed."

Nonsense can be poetry. "When I was but thirteen or so/ I went into a Golden Land/ Chimborazo Cotopaxi/ Took me by the hand . . . "But it also behoves us to cry "nonsense" when we see it. Poetry is what survives the crying, even if only one person thinks it poetic.



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RACE IN THE CLASSROOM

The right way to advance tolerance after Lawrence

Legacies can enrich, but they can also divide. Those who conducted the inquiry into Stephen Lawrence's murder hope that from the tragedy of his death might spring a determination to tackle the evils that attended it. It is to be hoped, as we argued yesterday, that the Macpherson report's publication will accelerate the necessary reform of the police service to bring its operations into line with the best modern practice. But, reform of the police aside, it

deeply questionable whether other changes that are proposed will contribute to social harmony. It has been widely noted that the report's proposals for the criminal justice system are problematic. But also worrying are its suggested reforms of the education system. Conceived in hope, they could foment further division.

The inquiry team was clearly shocked by e violent racism of those suspected of murdering Stephen Lawrence. The report regrets that "society allows such people to become or to be as they are". Its authors concede that "how society rids itself of such attitudes is not something we can prescribe, except to stress the need for education and example at the youngest age, and an overall attitude of zero tolerance of racism within our society". But their final recommendations are prescriptive and specific.

These include amending the national curriculum in order better to reflect the needs of a diverse society", suggesting that schools record all "racist incidents", calling for the annual publication of the number of such incidents on a school-by-school basis and publishing the number of pupils "excluded" from every school each year, along with their "self-defined ethnic identity". These suggestions, taken together, form an invitation to Balkanise Britain's schools. They threaten to undermine, grather than entrench, the progress which has been made towards inclusiveness and toleration in the nation's classrooms.

Few professionals have worked harder than teachers to promote a healthy spirit of mutual respect in society. But wise teachers recognise that harmony is best promoted by emphasising the value of each individual and stressing that all surface differences are irrelevant in forming judgments about others. Those who bully people for reason of race, disability or any other differentiating characteristic should be punished for their failure to respect individuals, rather than categories. A colour-blindness which teaches children to think beyond all stereotypes is a more liberal and constructive response than the divisive labelling which the report points towards. It was just such an approach, which placed tolerance at the centre, which marked the teaching of another victim of violence — the inspirational headmaster Philip Lawrence.

Reform of the national curriculum to reflect the sensitivities of any lobby, however wellmeaning, distorts the purpose of this educational benchmark. Children of every background benefit most from a calm concentration on acquiring basic life skills rather than an agitated heightening of awareness which can have negative consequences. Already, radical activists are pressing for curricular reforms which recall those in America which sparked culture wars".

Schools certainly will not benefit by being set against each other in a racism league table. Teachers already face difficulties in the maintenance of discipline. Published comparisons of the sort argued for in the report could incline some teachers to be especially lenient towards disruptive pupils from ethnic minorities. That would do no service to pupils, from every background, who wish to pursue their studies in a safe environment. David Blunkett, an Education Secretary possessed of admirable common sense, should thank the inquiry for its work, and then allow good teachers to get on with theirs.

THE WORLD OF WOO

Imagine 1,500 days of solitude

In a learned opinion delivered in 1928, the ignorance of the fate of his wife and son in American judge Louis D. Brandeis spoke of The right to be alone - the most comprehensive of rights, and the right most valued by civilised men". Those who are reading these lines standing on a packed bus will readily assent. But to be alone, really alone, for 41 years, confined without normal conversation, or sight of family and friends, or news: which of us can imagine what that would be like, or how the mind could bear such isolation? It lic is the sleep of Rip VanWinkle, except that it is not sleep. That has been the world of who yesterday stood for the first time since

1958 on liberty's peopled thoroughfares. He bowed to the crowd, and said: "I'm very happy to see the light." Irony was not intended; light, in a cell 12 feet by 12, must be a thing of dreams. But this old North Korean soldier, captured and convicted of espionage, was held all this time, not just in prison but in solitary confinement, because he refused to "see the light" as defined by South Korean authority and renounce his communist beliefs. Nor would he sign the lesser pledge, required by the Government of the former political prisoner. President Kim Dae Jung, affirming that he would obey South Korean law. For him and 16 other long-term prisoners, that requirement has now been waived, as part of an amnesty for more than 1,500 prisoners to mark President Kim's first year in office and the 80th anniversary of the Korean uprising against Japanese occupation.

The young soldier is now old, his speech impaired and his smile frozen after a stroke. But his memory holds: of being held in a freezing chamber underground; of electric shocks; of silence, years of silence, and of the ultimate torture, total

North Korea, about whom he still knows nothing, with whom he hopes to be reunited but who - for his "crime" of allowing bimself to be captured - may, tragically, have been executed years ago.

Oscar Wilde tried to imagine such a life. All that we know who be in gaol Is that the wall is strong;

And that each day is like a year, A year whose days are long. But when the days have stretched to nearly

15,000, time itself must have a stop, and instincts falter. Human beings are social animals whom solitary confinement deprives of a precious essence of humanity. Even communal confinement wears prisoners down. It is said that in wartime, PoWs would latch on to new arrivals, insisting that they tell everything about their lives, their thoughts, the knowledge they had acquired; and that even the most brilliant would, after about three days, begin to repeat themselves. Solitary confinement prevents even such pooling of experience.

But time has no stop in the world beyond the walls. The Korea Mr Woo last saw was dirt-poor, its towns wasted by war, the surviving houses low and traditional. That is how much of the North still looks, with famine preying on poverty deeper even than he knew. But South Korea, despite its own economic troubles, is all skyscrapers, spaghetti junctions, giant factories and superstores. He will be housed at first in a special hostel to help him to adjust - to seeing what he has not even read about. An American murderer held for 68 years, the world record, was offered parole after 63 years. He refused. Mr Woo now steps, aged but without youth's street wisdom, into what, with Yeats, he must find "no country for old men". He can never be free.

GOOD SIGNALS

The rail summit set a pattern for the network's expansion

Railways are now used more intensively than ever before. But without proper regulatory signalling, the network will be gridlocked. John Prescott wheeled out the Prime Minister yesterday to tell Britain's train companies, at a "rail summit", that they were on trial. They were failing their customers, and those operators that continued to do so would lose their franchises. Not since Gladstone's Railway Act of 1844 has the Government spelt out so clearly what it wanted the railways to do.

Tony Blair knows that transport is a potential vote-loser. Road congestion, late, crowded and dirty trains and high fares are the stuff of daily complaint and occasional fury. The Deputy Prime Minister has been increasingly frustrated that exhortation has had little effect on performance. But his proposed remedy, the Strategic Rail Authority (SRA), has fallen foul of another area of congestion, the

crowded legislative timetable. Until the SRA is in place, the Government will have to use existing regulators and levers to sort out the congestion on Britain's fast expanding network. The SRA will have teeth: the welcome appointment of Sir Alastair Morton as its head already gives it credibility. If the legislation on the House of Lords can be cleared in time, it may yet be set up this year. Already it has a must "shape up or ship out".

clear agenda, which existing regulatory bodies have begun to implement.

Market competition has been firmly established on the network. The most urgent task now is to get the many parts of the privatised system working better together. Yesterday's summit was a small step towards closer co-ordination, enabling the 25 train operators to voice their complaints, collective as well as individual, against Railtrack, which in turn had a chance to explain its priorities and justify the pace and level of investment. Where co-operation is lacking, the SRA must decide in the passengers' interests. Why, for example, should Britain's most overcrowded line, Thameslink, have to wait until 2006 before new lines are built through London under the new Channel Tunnel link project?

Another priority is to change the structure of incentives and penalties, though without new legislation that will be hard. Train companies that are investing heavily, running good services and attracting more passengers should be rewarded with long-term assurance: GNER, more than anyone, deserves to be clear that its franchise will be extended. Those that underinvest are now being told, in Mr Prescott's seaman's language, that they

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Five tests for UK adoption of euro

From Mr John Stevens, MEP for Thames Valley (Independent),

Sir, You are to be congratulated for devoting considerable space to the euro (reports and leading article, Feb-ruary 24, letters, February 25). This is clearly the most critical issue now facing Britain.

Matthew Parris, in his Political

Sketch on the same day, rightly suggests that William Hague's Conservative Party will not survive the debate on EMU intact. The planned campaign of the Pro Euro Conservative Party in this June's European elections must mark the end of any formal attempt to unite the Conservative Party around a position of dogmatic Euroscepticism.

We would argue that your five test points on the euro are unsound. The fact that our European partners have not travelled as far as us down the road to free market liberalism in crucial areas of their economies enhances; not diminishes, the case for

British entry.
Outside the euro our advantages are handicapped, inside we can ex-ploit them to the full. British politicians should be concerned about British jobs, not about those in France or Germany. Waiting for EMU to be "a manifest and sustained success" guarantees that we will be entering when our negotiating power is at its weakest. Investing on such a basis would not be very profitable.

Your claim to be true upholders of Anglo-Saxon economics sits ill with your aversion to independent central banking. Of course, it is in Britain's interest that monetary union should not lead to political centralisation, but that battle can only be won as a member of EMU, not from the sidelines.

Yours etc. JOHN STEVENS. BRENDAN DONNELLY. RICHARD BASSETT, The Pro Euro Conservative Party, 40 Smith Square, SWIP 3HL February 25.

From Mr Michael Faraday

Sir, If we had the referendum at once, preparation or otherwise for the euro could be made on the basis of certainty. I believe the only reason for delay is that our euro-quisling Government wants to use the time and our money to con the people into believing the euro is inevitable. The referendum will then be as phoney as any dictator's plebiscite and therefore

not binding on the British people Would Attlee and Bevin have betrayed the people like this?

Yours faithfully. MICHAEL FARADAY. 47 York Gardens, Walton on Thames, Surrey K112 3EW.

From Mr C. R. Bullen

Sir, The conditions to be satisfied which you lay down in your leader are rational, sensible and laudable, but nevertheless impossible of practical fulfilment. They would require a fundamental sea change in the atti-tude of continental politicians which is just not going to happen, for the EU is now set, like a locomotive hurtling down a single track, on a course which will brook no deviation until it attains its goal of full political union.

The only way the UK can avoid total absorption into a federal state is to withdraw from the whole project.

Yours faithfully. C. R. BULLEN 119 Douglas Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 2UE.

From Mr Douglas Ellison

Sir, Tony Blair rests his case for abolishing the pound on the fact that "the euro is a reality". Having lived in a world with about 180 currencies, why is the advent of one other currency the catalyst for such a monumental decision?

It is not because the euro is a reality. but because political union leading to a single European state is a reality, that Mr Blair is compelled to raise the stakes. Despite acknowledging the constitutional step EMU entails, he deliberately obfuscates the crucial issue of do we wish to be part of this political union born through monetary union or not, in economic terms.

Yours faithfully, DOUGLAS ELLISON, 52 Beaconsfield Road, SE3 7LG. February 24.

From Mr Norris McWhirter

Sir, Your magisterial three-column leader today sums it up: "The EU's democratic deficit, wide enough already, gapes wider still under monetary union."

The British electorate has, under

universal franchise since 1929, been able to dismiss its rulers. It has done so nine times since, in 18 general elections. The abolition of sterling planned for 2004 means finally and irrevocably losing control over our taxation rates and our social spend-ing. It would be a negation of democratic freedom, since we would be ruled by those we cannot dismiss.

One size never did fit all. As in 1940-41, we must again rescue Europe from itself - peacefully this time.

Yours faithfully, NORRIS McWHIRTER (Chairman). The Freedom Association, 35 Westminster Bridge Road, SEI 7JB.

Lawrence recommendations to tackle police racism

From Mr D. A. Coleman

Sir. The Government's response to the Stephen Lawrence tragedy is a damaging overreaction (reports and leading article, February 25; letters, February 24). It is one thing to reform police practices. It is quite another to try to force a whole society into a different shape on the basis of one badly mishandled murder inquiry.

If, as promised, legislation against discrimination becomes even wider-ranging, then dealing with members of ethnic minority populations as ordinary fellow citizens will become more difficult. Every issue of recruitment, promotion, reward and pun-ishment will become more troublesome when a member of any ethnic minority is involved. Fear of liogation will institutionalise special treatment. The temptation to shelter behind accusations of racism, already sporadically apparent, will become harder to resist. The management of immigra-

tion will become impossible. Another dismal consequence will be the additional influence given to the ideological zealots of the "anti-racist" movement, whose intolerance and witch-hunting have already damaged standards in some areas of education, social work and probation work.

It would be quite perverse to increase the powers of the Commission for Racial Equality without subjecting it to rigorous external scrutiny. If that flawed institution could be reformed, or preferably replaced by other mechanisms in which we could feel more confidence, then this depressing response might have more beneficial results.

Yours faithfully, DAVID COLEMAN 13 Crick Road, Oxford OX2 6QL. February 25.

From Mr Graham Lyons

Sir. You state in your leading article today that: "The proposal fin the Mac-pherson report] that individuals acquitted of one crime could be retried for the same offence, if new evidence Is uncovered after the acquittal, is profoundly illiberal". I disagree, at least equally profoundly.

It is anything but just that either the Lawrence family or the public who support them should be faced with the present awful finality of no further

trial. The Lawrence family's five years of waiting should not be compared with the worry to be suffered by five alleged murderers facing trial. They should not benefit simply because the Lawrence family made the mistake of launching a private prosecution at a time when there was too little evidence for there to be a case to

The public also has a right to be protected from the risk of five alleged murderers being at large until they are properly tried. If there were to become sufficient evidence to place before a jury, they at least would have the chance of an acquittal.

Yours faithfully. GRAHAM LYÖNS, Pump Court. Temple, EC4Y 7AH. February 25.

From Mr R. C. Heape

Sir. It is right that, with the publication of the Macpherson report, the focus of attention should for a short time be on the Metropolitan Police. But society as a whole should not

forget that it was not institutional racism that killed Stephen Lawrence. The perpetrators of that crime were born amongst us and the blame for their behaviour must lie with their parents and the society in which they were raised.

Yours sincerely. COLIN HEAPE. Bay Farm, Avoch, Ross-shire IV9 8RP. February 24.

From Councillor George Gill, Chairman of the Northumbria Police Authority

Sir, In your leader of February 23 you state that John Stevens, Deputy Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, "is not famed for radicalism himself and would not possess the authority to impose real change".

John Stevens was Chief Constable of Northumbria between 1991 and 1996. He inherited a force which had many strengths but which needed change in fundamental and farreaching ways. He formulated and implemented those changes successfully and with breathtaking speed.

The result of his actions was to remodel the Northumbria Police Force (one of the largest outside Lon-

In fairness to the police, what public

service would not use such a means of

limiting complaints made against lt?

There is a pressing need for an inde-

pendent investigative authority with

the power to make objective decisions

over what should or should or should

not be investigated further, quite

apart from taking responsibility for

From the horrifying Lawrence case to the trivial and borderline, both the

general public and the force itself de-

serve an independent body with these

the investigation itself.

Yours faithfully,

HILARY WHITE,

28 Palmers Road.

February 17.

don, covering both rural and inner-city areas) both in terms of its operational efficiency (it is the only force to have seen recorded crime fall in each year for the past six years) and in developing a community safety strategy in the fight against crime.

There may well be senior police officers who are extremely radical, and there may well be senior police officers who possess a good deal of authority. From my own direct experience I would be surprised if there are many who surpass John Stevens on both counts.

Yours faithfully. GEORGE GILL. Northumbria Police Authority, Civic Centre, Regent Street, Gateshead NE8 IHH. February 23.

Mr A. W. Carpenter,

Sir, The reason why Sir Paul Condon should depart is, in fact, given in your leader of February 23 ("Condon

should stay").
You say that the Commissioner concedes that the Metropolitan Police needs sweeping and immediate re-form. With his feet under the table for six years why have the problems not been dealt with?

New blood is urgently needed.

A. W. CARPENTER. 114 Sandford Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6DH. February 23.

From Mr Nicholas Crean

Sir, I am sure that the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police can do more good inside his organisation than outside. However, if he really does feel a "sense of shame" (report, February 25), perhaps he might at least consider surrending his knight-

This would be a very public act of contrition on behalf of his force, as well as a mark of real respect to Stephen Lawrence, his family and

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS CREAN, The Island, Hurstbourne Priors, Hampshire RG28 7RP. n.crean@cccsoho.com February 25.

Police complaints

From Mrs Hilary White

Sir, Mr P. W. Moorhouse, chairman of the Police Complaints Authority (letter, February 13), does not even begin to address the core of Liz Parratt's restore public confidence in the police. Under the 1984 Police and Criminal

Evidence Act, it is the chief officer of the force concerned who has responsibility for recording and investigating complaints made against his own officers. As a result, if the police are able to dismiss an incident as falling within their remit, they can do so simply by refusing to record it as a

The PCA has no true independence or power, in that it can only supervise and monitor investigations that the

Stonehenge haul

From Dr Ian Mertling-Blake

Sir, There are two fundamental objections to the claim by the conserva-tion group, Menter Preseli, that "as well as being a fun way of marking the millennium" their project (using several hundred volunteers dressed in skins to haul a four-tonne rock 240 miles from the Preseli Mountains in West Wales to Stonehenge) has a serious scientific purpose (report, February 22).

The countryside over which they will convey the rock has changed utterly since Stonehenge was constructed. Moreover, the achievement will be useless for comparative purposes unless the workforce is subected to Neolithic diet and living conditions for, at least, the five months duration of the exercise. (Nor, I suspect, will they consent to be "dressed

Yemen trial

From Mr Stephen Solley, QC Sir, On January 29 I applied for a visa

to visit the Yemen Republic so that I could monitor the trial of the young Englishmen in Aden. I explained that I was to be an

independent observer from the Bar Human Rights Committee, not briefed by the defendants or their families. I have waited patiently but it is clear now, some 26 days later, in spite of several further prompts, that one will not be forthcoming.

It is a matter of grave concern that an independent senior lawyer is being excluded from observing this very important case, especially in the light of yesterday's report of the arrest of an English lawyer, Rashad Yaqoob.

Yours etc. STEPHEN SOLLEY (Chair, Bar Human Rights Committee), Cloisters, Temple, London EC4Y 7AA. February 24.

in skins for a minute longer than television has them in view.)

Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 9PB.

However, the real scandal is that, when funding for serious archaeology is at its nadir, this travesty should be supported by lottery money to the tune of £100,000 - enough to fund the living expenses of ten worthwhile postgraduate research students for three years.

Furthermore, the complacent assertion that a serious scientific purpose underlies what is no more than It's a Knockout in woad and woolly knickers, implies that the lottery grants committee consulted some archaeological authority which, worryingly, conferred its imprimatur on the overall dottiness.

I remain yours faithfully. IAN BLAKE, Blair Cottage Aultgrishan, Melvaig. Gairloch, Wester Ross IV2l 2DG. February 23.

Back to the trenches

From Miss Lyn Macdonald Sir. Trenchcoat "originally designed

for RAF officers in 1923" (report on Burberry's new image, February 23). Come now! Surely your fashion editor's head was in the clouds.

A moment's contemplation of the origin of the garment's name might have brought her down to earth. It was first worn some years earlier, in the trenches of the First World War.

Yours faithfully, LYN MACDONALD (Author, To the Last Man: Spring 1918, Viking/Penguin, 1998). 15 St Saviour's Wharf, Mill Street, SEI IBA. February 23.

Business letters, page 35

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Yeovil alternative

police themselves have decided to From Mrs Claire Margetts

> Sir. You report that Westland technicians are reluctant to leave a wet winter in Yeovil to work in the Bahamas for three months (report, "Winter in paradise? No thanks", February 17).

> I lived in the Bahamas for a year in the early Eighties and then moved to Yeovil. The temperature here may average 8C in February, but shoes don't turn green with mould overnight because of the 98 per cent humidity. Yeovil may not have exotic wildlife, but neither does it have flying cockroaches -- and a lurking supermarket trolley in the Yeo is consider-

ably more benign than a reef shark. Yours faithfully, CLAIRE MARGETTS, 98 Westland Road, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 2AY. roybarry@margetts10.freeserve.co.uk February 17.

From Mr Brian Attewell Sir, Having had the wonderful fortune to visit many of the islands in the Bahamas chain, usually to work but sometimes just to relax, I can certainly recommend the western Andros

Androsian days often start with quite magical mists which lift to reveal a beautiful series of varied islands. Glorious beaches stretch for dozens of miles while the luxuriant interiors feature amazing "blueholes" ponds, 30 yards across or more, that tunnel their way out to sea and are an irresistible invitation to intrepid divers. Birdlife is abundant. The local people are friendly and fun. The American-run naval centre offers many familiar amenities, if missed. Three months in Andros during our

winter? Heaven. I dream of it. Yours faithfully, BRIAN ATTEWELL (High Commissioner, The Bahamas, 1992-96). 86 Vineyard Hill Road, SW19 7.U.

Brit-spotting

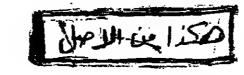
From Mr M. D. Jarvis

Sir, I have been reading with interest about the ease with which the Eng-lishman abroad is recognised (letters, January 29; February 6, 13, 18 and 20). Our natural assumption of superiority, mocking self-deprecation, the feeling that we "fit in" wherever we are

and, of course, our innate humility set us apart from men of other nations. I notice, however, that your correspondents comment only on the male of the species. Are our womenfolk,

perhaps, different? I have the honour to remain, Sir, your obedient servant, M. D. JARVIS, 37 St Bernards Road, Whitwick,

Coalville, Leicester LE67 5GX. martin@coalville.swinternet.co.uk





COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 25: The Queen received His Excellency Chief Emeka Anyaoku. Commonwealth Secretary General.

His Excellency Dr George Gonello du Puis was received in audience by The Queen today and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for Malta in Lon-

don. His Excellency was accompa-nied by the following members of the High Commission: Mr Joseph Cole (Counsellor), Mr Carmel D. Inguanez (Counsellor), Mr Roder-ick Sant (First Secretary), Dr Elaine Cutajar (First Secretary). Mrs Iris Bonello du Puis was

also received by Her Majesty.
Sir John Kerr (Permanent Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs was present.
The Honourable Mr Justice Bodey was received by The Queen upon his appointment as a Justice the High Court when Her

Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Bachelor. The following were received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon their appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassadors: Mr

David Lyscom (Bratislava), Mr Chris Ingham (Tashkent) and Mr Richard Muir (Kuwait). Mrs Lyscom, Mrs Ingham and Mrs Muir were also received by The Queen.

Mr David Hollamby was re-ceived in audience by The Queen upon his appointment as Governor to St Helena. Mrs Hollamby was also re-

ceived by The Queen.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 25: The Duke of Edinburgh. Senior Trustee, today at-tended a Quarterly Meeting of the Trustees of the National Maritime Museum followed by Lunch at the museum. Greenwich, London

His Royal Highness this evening attended a Concert and Dinner for Arts for Nature. The Alliance of Religions and Conservation and The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra Foundation at Bucking-

Royal engagements | School news The Queen will visit St Martin-in-the Fields High School, Tulse Hill.

London SW2, at 11.00. The Duke of Edinburgh will visit the Leicester Mercury newspaper offices at 9.40. Leicester University at 10.45. Lelcester Grammau School at f1.50, Everards Brewery at 12.45 and the Checkland Kindley-sides' Offices at 3.00.

21st Oreration Bumblebee Stolen Property & Crime Prevention Road-show, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Police, at the Banqueting Suite, Wembley Stadium. The Duke of York will attend a Dining in Night at the Officers' Mess, RAF Northolt at 7.30.

Birthdays today

Mr Paul Ackford, rugby player, 41: Lord Bridge of Harwich, 82: Mr Peter Carter-Ruck, solicitor, 85; Mr Johnny Cash, singer, 67; Sir Peter Cazalet, former chairman, APV, 70: Mr David Edgar, playwright, 51: Mr SJ. Etherington, chief executive. National Council for Voluntary Organisations, 44; Sir Donald Farquharson, former Lord Justice of Appeal. 71: Mr Harry Gold, bandleader and saxophon-ist, 92: Dr B.J. Greenhill, author. 79: Mr Christopher Hope, writer, Miss Emma Kirkby, soprano.
 Professor Noreen Murray. FRS. molecular biologist, 64: Sir Michael Perry, former chairman, Unilever, 65: Dr Arthur Suddaby, a former Provost of the City of London Polytechnic, 80: Mr Tony Selby, actor, 6t; Dr Diana Walford, director of services, Public Health Laboratory Service, 55: Sir Everion Weekes, former cricketer,

ST JAMES'S PALACE February 25: The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince of Wales's Foundation for Architecture and

morning visited the Foundation's new premises in Shoreditch, London EC2. His Royal Highness this after-noon attended a lunch at the Chamber of Shipping, Carthusian

the Urban Environment, this

Street, London ECI. The Prince of Wales, President, Business in the Community, received a briefing on the progress of the Regeneration through Heritage Cumpaign.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 25: The Princess Royal, President, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, today attended the Borders Carers Day at the Roxburghe Hotel, Heiton, Kelso, Roxburghshire, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Roxburgh, Ettrick and Lauder-dale [Dr June Paterson-Brown]. Her Royal Highness this after-

noon visited N. Peale Ltd. Victoria Road, Hawick, and later J. Scott Ltd. Princess Street. Hawick, oxburghshire. The Princess Royal subsequent-

ly visited the Glenview Children's Residential Home, Marigold Drive, Galashiels, Roxburghshire. Her Royal Highness, Patron. Victim Support Scotland, this evening arended a Dinner at The Royal Bank of Scotland, 42 St Andrew Square. Edinburgh, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh |Mr Eric Milligan, the Right Hon the Lord Provost).

KENSINGTON PALACE February 25: The Duke of Glouceser, President, British Consultants Bureau, this evening attended the Annual Dinner at the Royal Thames Yacht Club. Knights-bridge, London SWI.

ST JAMES'S PALACE February 25: The Duke of Kent this morning visited the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Central Science Laboratory, Sand Hutton, York.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE RICHMNOND PARK February 25: Princess Alexandra. President, this afternoon received the Hon Mrs Sara Morrison, Chairman of WWF-UK,

The Portsmouth Grammar

School with Portsmouth Cathedral

The Provost and Chapter of Port-smouth Cathedral and the Head-master of The Portsmouth Gram-mar School are pleased to an-nounce the Institution of a Philip Barrett Scholarship Io commemorate the Rev Philip Barrett, a former pupil of the School, Precentor of the Cathedral and distinguished ecclesiastical scholar. Gre-

gory Sanderson has been elected as the first Scholar. Wycombe Abbey School Wycombe Abbey School has made the following Awards for 1999: The Wycombe Abbey Open Scholarship Eliza Apperty, Winchester House School. The William Johnston Yapp Scholarship Emma Thompsell, Bute House Preparatory

Emma Thompsell, Bute House Preparatory School.
The Centenary Schoolarship: Chioe Blandy, Godstowe Preparatory School.
The Crostinwake Scholarship: Katharine Taylor, Brambey School Scholarship: Elizavetha Andronova. Godstowe Preparatory School. Eabhbistons: Natasha Bermert, Wecombe Abbey: Louise Bralstord, High March School: Katharine Duval. Wycombe Abbey: Couns Gibbert, Maltman's Green School: Alice Hordern. Wycombe Abbey: Elizabeth Meall. Laby Eden's School: Amanda Oon. Falkner House: Mikko Stath. Wycombe Abbey: Cecily White, Wycombe Abbey: Cecily White, Wycombe Abbey: Cecily White, Wycombe Abbey: Godslarship for Mexic Louise Bralstord. High March School. Exhibition for Massiel sold: Schoolarship for Mexic Louise Bralstord. High March School. James Allen's Preparatory School Exhibition (for Art): Alexandra Buhler. Wycombe Abbey.

Wyoninhe Abbey School (Charity No. 300036) promotes the education of girls. Reception Youth Aliyah Child Rescue A Cocktail Reception was held at

the Lord Chancellor's Residence last night at which Mr Alan

Diamond spoke.

Service dinner

Corps of Royal Engineers General Sir John Stibbon. Chief Royal Engineer, presided at a dinner of the Corps of Royal Engineers held last night in Chatham. The Honorary Colonels of the RE Territorial Army Units and the Masters of the Masons' and Plumbers' Companies were among those present.

Dinners

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan The Secretary of State for the Home Department and the Indian High Commissioner were the principal guests at a dinner of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan held last night at the Portman Hotel. Mr Maneck Dalal, chairman, and Dr M.N. Nandakumara, executive director, also spoke-

Institution of Electrical

Engineers Mr Stephen Byers. Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, and Baroness Kennedy of the Shaws, QC, Chair of the British Council. were the principal guests at the annual dinner of the Institution of Electrical Engineers held last night at Grosvenor House. Dr John Taylor, president, was in the chair. The Lord Mayor of Westminster attended. Among those present were the Chinese Ambasador, Lord Mayhew of Twysden, QC, and the Dean of Westminster.

Society of Conservative Lawyers Mr William Hague, Leader of HM Opposition, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Society of Conservative Lawyers held fast night at the Carlton Club. Lord Carlisle of Bucklow, QC, presided. Lord Kingsland, QC, also spoke. Among others present

Werte:

Sir Nicholas Lyell, QC. MP, Sir Ivan Lawrence, QC. Mr Richard Anelay, QC. and Baroness Anelay of St Johns, Mr Edward Garnier, QC. MP, Mr Richard Ontsway, MP, Mr David Lidington. MP, Mrs Eleanor Laine, MP, Mr Leolin Price. QC. Mr Oliver Sells. QC, Mr Andrew Mitchell, QC. Mr Jorathan Evans, Mr Roger Evans, Mr Frances Bouchier and Mr Christopher Frances, secretary. were:

Royal Society

Sir Aaron Klug, OM. President of the Royal Society, and Lady Klug were the hosts at an evening of music and readings held last night at 6 Carlton House Terrace to mark the inauguration of the society's new Kohn Centre, refur-bished with a grant from the Kohn Foundation. Dr and Mrs Ralph Kohn, Dr Michelle Kohn, Miss Maxine Kohn and Mrs Hephzibah Rudofsky were welcomed by Sir Aaron and officers of the society.

Luncheon

Lusurers' Company Mr Max Taylor, Chairman of Lloyd's, was the principal guest at a luncheon of the fusurers' Company held yesterday at Drapers' Hall During the luncheon Mr Taylor presented the company's Award Certificate to Mrs J.A. Smith. Mr Peter H. Purchon. host.

Appointments in the Forces

The Army COLONEL: N P Gaskell - to be Deputy Commander HQ Catterick Garrison · Peb L5; D F Davies to be Colonel SPS2 DSPS(A) - Feb 15: A M Hood · to be Colonel LSP4 · Feb

Retirements BRIGADIER: C D Part - late INT Corps 21.2.99; P J Wagstaffe - late RA 15.2.99; J R Smales - late 14/20H 24.2. 99. COLONEL: M J N Richards - late RA 19.299.

Royal Air Force AIR COMMODORE: PR Thomas - AFPAA Innsworth, 26-299. GROUP CAPTAIN: D H Ander-

GROUP CAPTAIN: D H ARGE Son - RAF Uxbridge, 22.2.99; E C Foster - AFPAA Innsworth, 22.299; P J Gooding, 28.2.99; N Gregory HQ MATO, 22.2.99; P Roberts - D Airspace, 26.2.99; M R Trace - RAF PMA, 26.2.99. WING COMMANDER: J M Cruickshank - RAF Brize Norton, 22.299; M P O'Sullivan - DSCA



DRESSED in the national costume of Wales. Nicola Howells, a leukaemia patient, was welcomed at the gates of Kensington Palace by Panl Burrell, former butler to Diana, Princess of Wales. Nicola, ten, was among a group of children from Llandough Hospital in Penarth, South Glamorgan, who travelled to London to lay daffodils at the gates in celebration of St David's Day and in memory of the Princess. Mr Burrell, who helped to organise the trip said: "I try not to come back here very often because it brings back memories but the hospital is very close to my heart." The children also visited Downing Street, met Alun Michael, the Welsh Secretary, and were given a guided tour of London and treated to lunch. Nicola said: "I wanted to wear the dress to lay flowers for Princess Diana."

Church appointments

Next Bishop of Southwell The Ven George Cassidy, Archdea-con of London, and Residentiary Canon of St Paul's (London): to be the next Bishop of Southwell in succession to the Right Rev Patrick Harris who retires in April.

The Right Rev Manawar Rumalshah, General Secretary, USPG: to be also Honorary Assistant Bishop (Southwark). The Rev Graham Archer, Priest-

in-Charge, Walton, and Chaplain, Feliostowe Hospital (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich): has been appointed Priest-in-Charge, Highlield Southampton (Winchester). The Rev Fiona Ballentyne, NSM

Assistant Curate, Blyth Valley Team (St Edmundsbury & Ips-wich): has been appointed Assistanl Curate. Sole Bay Team |same diocese). The Rev Stephen Barron, Team

Vicar, Southampton (Winchester): has been appointed Chaplaincy Manager, Birmingham Women's Health Care NHS Trust (Birmingham). The Rev Jonathan Boardman.

Team Rector, Catford and Downham (Southwark): has been appointed also Rural Dean of East Lewisham (same diocese). The Rev Ian Brothwood Vicar. South Norwood St Alban |Southwark): to be Vicar. Reigate St Mark (same diocese).

Canon Brian Cole. Rector, Great and Linle Dunham w. Great an Little Fransham and Sporle, and Rural Dean of Brisley and Elm-ham (Norwich): to be also Chairman. Diocesan Board of Education (same diocese). The Rev Richard Hawkins, Assist-

ant Curate, Weymouth Holy Trinity (Salisbury): to be Priest-in-Charge, Hey St John the Baptist The Rev David Horton, Vicar, Joydens Wood St Barnabas (Ro-chester): to be Priest-in-Charge, Rosherville St Mark (same dio-

cese). The Rev Simon Hunt, Curate, Heysham St Peter (Blackburn): to be Vicar, Higher Walton All Saints (same diocese).

The Rev Les Ireland, Vicar, Bardsley Holy Trinity (Manchester): to be Priest-in-Charge. Levenhulme St Peter and St Andrew (same diocesel.

The Rev Lucy Ireland, NSM Curate, Bardsley Holy Trinity (Manchester): to be NSM Curate, Levenhulme St Peter and St Andrew (same diocese). The Rev David Jenkins, Vicar,

Blackpool St Michael and All Angels (Blackburn): to be Vicar, Broughton St John the Baptist (same diocese).

The Rev Frank Kent, Rector,

Lyminge w. Paddlesworth and Stanford w. Postling and Radegund (Canterbury): to be Priest-in-Charge, Sittingbourne St Michael (same diocese). The Rev Ros Lane, Assistant Curate, Huddersfield St Peter and

Paddock All Saints (Wakefield): to be Assistant Chaplain, HMP and YOI Doncaster (same diocese).
The Rev Terry Mason, Curate, Bedeyheath Christ Church (Rochester): to be Priest-in-Charge. Stone near Dartford St Mary (same diocese).
The Rev Kim Mathers, NSM

Curate, Bourremouth St John w. St Michael (Winchester): to be Priest-in-Charge, Darenth St Mar-

garet of Antioch (Rochester). The Rev Thomas Purchas, Rector, Wheathampstead, and Rural Dean of Wheathampstead (St Al-baus): to be also Honorary Canon of St Albans Cathedral (same

The Rev Andrew Raynes, Curate, Crowborough All Saints (Chiches-ter): to be Vicar, Blackburn Christ Church w. St Matthew (Blackhurni

The Rev Mark Savage, Curate, Ely Team (Ely): to be Team Vicar, Huntingdon (same diocese). The Rev Richard Seymour Whiteley, Priest-in-Charge, Blunham w. Tempsford and Little Barford (SI Albans): to be Priest-in-Charge, The Studden Churches (same diocese). The Rev John Smith, Parish

Evangelist, Gleadless Valley (Sheffield): to be Parish Evangelist, Shevington St Anne (Blackburn). Canon David Stranack, Vicar Nayland w. Wiston (St Edmunds bury & Ipswich): to be also Rural Dean of Hadleigh (same diocese). The Rev Nick Todd, Assistant Curate, Great Wyrley (Lichfield): has been appointed Vicar, Leaton and Albrighton w. Battlefield

Prebendary Paul Towner, Rector, Great Hanwood St Thomas, and Rural Dean of Pontesbury (Herelord): to be Priest-in-Charge, Hereford St Peter w. St Owen and St James (same diocese). Retirements and resignations
The Rev lan Gardner, Rector,

Nursling w. Rownhams (Winchester) to retire April 30. The Rev John Taylor, Honorary Curate, Abbotts Ann and Upper Clatford and Goodworth Clatford (Winchester) resigned February 2.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr W.P. Axtell and Miss A.L.R. Scott-Malden The engagement is announced between William, younger son of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Axtell. of Over Worton, Oxfordshire, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs Colin Scott-Malden, of Baughurst, Hampshire.

Mr R. Bocock and Miss A.C. Grace The engagement is announced a tween Robert, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Bocock, of

Bromley. Kent, and Angela Christina, only daughter of Mr Albert Grace, of Chantry, Somerset, and Mrs Pauline Hards, of Bromley. Kent. Mr J.B. Bloomfield

The engagement is announced between John, fourth son of Mrs Bloomfield and the late Mr John Patrick Bloomfield, of Loughton, Essex, and Marie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Devine, of

and Miss M. Devine

Edinburgh, Scotland. Mr M.R. Champoess and Miss S.E. Foy The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs

Ronald Champness, of Colchester, and Susan, daughter of Mr Ronald Foy and of the late Mrs Foy, of Mr A.M. Clark Hutchisos and Schorita V. Sácz Castelló

The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Mr and Mrs George Clark Hutchison, of Westbury, Northamptonshire, and Yolanda, youngest daughter of Señores de Sáez Castelló, of Pinseque, Zaragoza.

Mr W.G.F. Fearnley-Whittingstall and Miss T. Dicock

The engagement is announced between William, only son of Mr and Mrs W.G. Fearnley-Whittingstall, of Eastington, Gloucestershire, and Tamara, daughter of the late Mr Daniel Dicock and of Mrs Michael Revnolds, of Edmonton, Canada. Mr C.P.G. Giavotto and Miss C.E.A. McDonald

The engagement is announced, between Christopher, only son of the late Mr Emilio Giavotto and of Mrs Giavotto, of Eigin, Scotland, and Catriona, daughter of Dr Ronald McDonald, of Ramsey, isle of Man, and Dr Anne Bolton of Kirk Michael, Isle of Man.

Mr J.W. Holland and Miss C.F. Buttling and Miss C.F. Bottling
The engagement is announced
between Jonathan, son of Mr and
Mrs William Holland, of
Loughton. Essex, and Colette,
younger daughter of Mr and Mrs
Ted Buttling, of Chigwell, Essex.

Mr G. McCabe and Miss E.A.M. Barrett

The engagement is announced between Gervase, younger son of the late Mr Arthur McCabe and of Mrs Therese McCabe, of Chelsea. London, and Elizabeth, second daughter of Mr Richard Barrett, of Dallas, Texas, and Mrs Jennifer Chapman, of Fulham, London.

Mr S. Ludiam and Mile S. Sorrondegui The engagement is announced between Simon, eldest son of Mr

nagendari (Maria) Geografia

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and Mrs Richard Ludlam, of Bath. Somerset, and Sophie, daughters! M and Mme Jean Sorrondeguis. Paris, France. Mr F.H.C. Price

Mr F.H.C. Frice and Miss R.J. Wigley The engagement is announced between Frederick, younger son of Mr Christopher (Kit) Price and the late Mrs Price, of Morton Bagot. Warwickshire, and Rebecca, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Islwyn Wigley, of Radyr, Cardiff.

Mr M.D. Skingley and Miss H.R. Barton The engagement is announced between Matthew Dominic, son of Mr and Mrs Brough Skingley, of High Wycombe, Buckinghai and Helena Ruth, elder daughter of the late Mr Ian Burton and of Mrs Victoria Burton, of High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

Mr S.R. Sporborg and Miss R.E.L.D. Gresham

Thompson The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of My and Mrs Christopher Sporborg Rachel, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Gresham Thompson. of Wood End, Hertfordshire.

Mr G. Thomas and Miss D. Benson

The engagement is announced between Gareth, son of Mr and Mrs Eric Thomas, of Newport, Shropshire, and Danielle, daughter of Mr Jeffrey Benson and Mrs Merlyn Wardlaw, both of London.

Flight Lieutenant A.J. Vine and Miss R.E.M. Willcox The engagement is announced between Anthony, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Peter Vine, of Ferring.

West Sussex, and Rachel, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Lionel Willeax, of Erpingham House, Norfolk. Mr D.C. Webb and Miss V.K. Entwistle

The engagement is announced between David Christopher, only son of Mr and Mrs E.E. Webb, of Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire, and Victoria Kate, youngest, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.A. Entwistle, of Knutsford, Cheshire. Mr J.M.B. Wilson and Miss K.V. McKenzie

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of the late Mr Guy Wilson and of Mrs Wilson, of Wetheral, Cumbertand, and Kerry, daughter of Mr and Mrs Malcolm McKenzie, of Esher,

Marriage

Mr P.M. Maxion and Mrs N.L. Dicketts The marriage took place on Wednesday, February 24, 1999, in London, between Mr Peter Maxton and Mrs Nichola Dicketts (née Wright).

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Anthony Ashley Cooper, 3rd Earl of Shaftesbury, writer, London, 1671; Victor Hugo, author, Besancon, France, 1802; William Frederick Cody (Buffalo Bill), showman, Scott County, Iowa, 1846; Emile Coue, psychotherapist, Troyes, France, 1857; Frank Bridge, composer, Brighton, 1879.

DEATHS: Thomas d'Urfey, sati-rist, London, 1723; Gluseppe Tarti-ni, composer, Padua, 1770; Alexan-der Geddes, biblical critic, London, 1802: John Philip Kemble, actormanager, Lausanne. 1823; Alois Seoefelder, inventor of lithography, Munich, 1834: Frederick Tenhyson. poet, London, 1998; Sir Harry Lauder, comedian, Strathaven, 1950; William Ralph Inge, Dean of St Paul's 1911-34, Wallingford, 1954; Levi Eshkol, Prime Minister of Israel 1963-69, Internal of 1964; Keal Jerusalem, 1969; Karl Jaspers, Existentialist philosopher, Basle.

El and E2 banknotes were issued for the first time, 1797. Napoleon escaped from Elba, 1815.

The first Grand National steeplechase was run at Aintree, 1839. The steamer Birkenhead wrecked off Cape Colony with the loss of 485 lives, 1852. Radar (radio detection and ranging) was first demonstrated by Robert Walson-Watt at Daventry.

Meeting

Byron Society Miss Elaine Feinstein and Mr Francis Carr were the speakers at a meeting of the Byron Society held last night at the St Ermin's Hotel, London SWI, to mark Pushkin's Bicentenary. Lord Byron and Mr Geoffrey Bond, chairman, also spoke.

University news Oxford

Jesus College
Karen Jessica Bakker (BA Sc
McMaster) has been elected to a
Tarmac Junior Research Fellowship from October I, in Environmental Change.

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Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver. Whoso of-tereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversationaright will I show the savation of God. Page 50.22-23 (AV).

BIRTHS

ARRIS - On 24th February to Davina Ince Morris-Jones) and Richard, a daughter, Cecily Rebecc

BALDWN - On Monday 22nd February 1999, at the Wessex Maternity Centre, Southampton to Samanths inée Troyi and Hugh, a soo, Rhys Hugh Conrad. BISCHBROTES - On February

19th at The Portland Hospital to Martha and George, a beautiful son.

February, in Barcelona, to Fions Inée Lynch; and Neil Douglas Cochrane, a daughter, Jessica Anne. CURTIS - On Sunday 21st February (999 to Zee Inse Horsburgh Porter) and Nicholas, a sen, Harry Theodore and o daughter, Natasha Alexandra.

DE CANDIA - On February 23nd at The Portland Hospital to Cherry and Fabrizio, a daughter, Isabella, a sister for

GRAHAM - On February 20th at The Portland Hospital. at The Portland Hospital, to Karen (née Madorsky)

BIRTHS HAMETON - On February [5th 1999 to Tom and Sarsh (née Hutton) a son, Joe Tancred, a brother for Flynn.

HOUSE - On February 9th 1999, to Marina tode Taylor) and Christopher, a daughter, Alexandra £mma. HUGRL - On February 22nd at The Portland Hospital, to Christine and Nigel, a daughter, Meg te delight Rex, Johnny and Rory.

JOHNS - On February 19th at The Portland Hospital, to Lumm and William, a daughter, Lliy Anna, a gift from God.

WICKLETHWAIT - Oz February 17th in New York to Fevrenia and John, twin sons, Guy William and Edward Hugh. AOSINS - On 12th February at Si Richards, Chichester

to Susun Inée Rouotreci and David, a son Nich James Alexander, a brother lor Charlotte. REHERNE POLLOCK - On February 23rd 1999 la February 23rd 1999 la Fontaineblesu, to Laline (née Sanders) and Blair, a daughter, Helena Penelope Jane.

DEATHS

BOND - On 12th February 1999 suddenly at home Andrew aged 54 years. Further enquiries to Tapper Funeral Service, tel: Poole (01202) 673164. **DEATHS**

BRABNER - On 17th
February 1999, peacefully
at home, Fhyllis, mother of
the late Sandra Hartman
and much loved
grandmother of Cornelia.
Funeral at 11.30 cm oo
Friday, 26th February 1999
at St Luke's Church.
Cheises, Family Howers
only. Donations, if desired,
to the Zoological Society
of London, c/o Leverton &
Sons Ltd., 212 Eversholt
Street, London NW1 1BD.

CAMPSELL - Sally Natalie (nde Holt) auddenly at home Tuesday 23rd February 1999. Beloved daughter of Richard and Suzanne (deceased) and Suzanne (decessed) and stepdaughter of Gwen. Much loved by her friends Funeral 26th February at Rossiawn Cremator Belfast at 1.30 pm.

CMAYTOR - Peacefully on 22nd February at The Old Rectory, Wenves, near Cardiff, Edmund Rashielgh aged 90. Loved and tressured by all his family. Puneral Service at Coychurch Crematorium, near Bridgend on Monday last March at 1 pm. Family flowers only please but donations may be sent to RSPB, 18 High Street. Newtown, Powis SY16 2NP.

DEANE - Timothy George on 24th February suddenly at Royal Liverpool Hospital, beloved brother of Alan and Frederick.

DENEMAM - Disma died quietly on Wednesday February 24th 1999 aged 88 at Finchempeteed. Widow of Dennis and beloved mother, grandmother, Funeral Service at Easthampeteed.

Park Crematorium on Thursday 4th March at 3pm. No flowers but donations if wished to the Alzheimer's Disease Society of J.B. Hall & Co., 142 Finchampatend Road, Wakinsham Barkhill Park Cree Thursday 142 Finchempsteed Rose Wokingham, Berkshire.

ESLEG - Peter Walter. Barrister at Law, Albion Chambers, Bristol. On 22nd February 1999. Gene Fishing. MEDGECOE - Kitty
peacetally on 13th January
near Canterbury aged 92.
Widow of Frank and
mother of Diana and
Michael. Memorial Service
on 28rd April at 2.30 pm at
Appledore, Kent.

MCKSOH - Dom Thomas Leonard, monk of Ampleforth on 23rd February 1999. Requiem Mass 2nd March 1999, 12 noon at Ampleforth Abbay.

To place death notices. acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

LEWAS - (Née Leigh) Hilary Mary Egerton peacefully in the Hereford County Hospital on February 23rd aged 75. Widow of Jackie, beloved mother of John and Alison and proud grandmother of Anthony, Richard and Charles, The funeral service will take place at 2 pm on Tuesday March 2nd at St Peter's Church, Evancoyd Denstions if desired for St Peter's Church, Evancoyd

Funeral arrangements by A.W. Hughes & Son, Sunnymend, Gladestry, Kington, Herefordshire, (01544) 370217. Margaerite on 23rd
February. Beloved wife of
Hugh peacofully at
Southead General
Hospital after a short
illness aged 73 years Will
be sedly missed by her
many friends. Funeral
Southead Crematorium
Thursday 4th March at

Thursday 4th March at 11.00 am. ODER - Sir Glies Rolls Bt. ODER - Sir Giles Rolls Bt. of Leonardslee, Lower Beeding, died peacefully on 24th February aged 84 years. Cremation private. Service of Thanksylving at 3 pm on Friday March 28th at Holy Trinity Church, Lower Beeding, near Horsham.

To place death povices acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

MACDONALD - Peacefully at Hay Lodge Hospital, Feebles, on February 24th, 1999, Callem Macdonald, M.B.E. Scottish Literary Publisher, of innerfeithen and formerly of Edimbergh, son of the late Murdo and Mary Ann Macdonald of Breatlets, Receiver the of Levit.

Minto and sary rain Minton and sary rain Mandonald of Brasslets, Berners, lale of Lewis, beloved husband of Tessa and the late Winnie, doer father of Ann Marie.

Calum, Maurosa, Angus, Ross and the late Seonald, much loved grandfather and gest-grandfather and dearest brother of Etta and Mary, Service in Mortonhall Crematerium, Main Chapel, Edinburgh, on Tuesday March 2nd at 2,00 pm to which all friends are warmly invited, Family flowers only.

Actor, Reconteer, Life Enhancer and Born Adventurer on 24th February aged 68, passesfully after a brave and courageous light. Most beloved husband of Patricis, admed lather to Timothy, Amands and Piars and devoted "Gumpy" to George, Florence, Chartie and Barley, Private funeral Memorial Service to be assounced. Donations, if desired, to Headway West London, to Bickey Godding, 10 West, Charing Cross Hospital, Fallism Pelace Road, London Willer.

NUTTING - On 24th February 1999, the Rt. Hon. Sir Anthony St. PC. Deeply loved and greatly missed by his family. Family and friends welcome at the funeral to be held at 3 pm on Thursday 4th March at Hely Trinty Brompton. All enquiries to Leverton & Sons Ltd. 0.171 357 8075. PARSONS - Anthony Marres.

ARSONS - Anthony Maxre, FCA pescefully at home on 21rd February, Seloved husband of Rossmund and husband of Rosumund and
their five sous and
grandchildren, Private
cremation followed by
Thacksgiving Service at St
Mark's Church,
Sroadwater Down,
Tumbridge Wells on 3rd
March at 11 am
PESSIYAN ANMAD! - OmolBani, greatly loved,
admired and respected
mother, aunt, grandmother
and great-grandmother
passed away possedully, in
Tehran, on Wednesday
24th February, Inna Illishi
wa inna ilayhi rajinn.

TOWNELY - Robert aged 92 years. Peacefully in hospital on 21st February. Dearly loved by his wifa Louise, his sons John and Ben, and his granddaughters Hannah and Locy, Cremation private. Service of Thanksgiving at 12.30 pm on Friday 5th March in the Lady Chapel, Sherborne Abboy, Dorset, No Howers places, but donations if desired, for Queenisway Day Hospital Yeovil c/o Easons Funeral Services, Newell, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 4EZ.

HERWOOD - Devid Milne of Royal York Crescent, Clifton, Bristol, died on 24th February aged 90.

WEOECOMEE - Pescalully on 24th February, Ismes Murray, beloved bushand of Rife, much missed father of Malcolm and Ann, grand-dad of Sean, Roger and Flotts and adored great-grand-dad of Emily and Joseph, Funer strictly private, Memorial Service to follow. No flowers but docations, if desired, to Holy-Cross Howers but document, if desired, to Holy Cross Hospital, Hasiemere. Deep gratitude to staff at The Royal Surrey Hospital and Holy Cross Hospital, Hasiemere.

WYLDE - On February 23rd, 1989, I. Rowland aged 94 years, of Esher, Surrey. formerly of Derby. Beloved husband of the late Barbara, loving father of Elizabeth and grandfather of Joanna and Georgina, Funeral Service at Randalla Park Crematorium. crematorium, Leetherheed on Wednesday Man Lecturement on March 3rd at 11 am. Family flowers only. Enquiries to G. Boutell & Son, tel: 01932 345037.

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE FORFOLK - Roy Oswald. In

ory of my

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE OBINSON - Gerard, Remembered with love, so sadly missed. Tesse,

BIRTHDAYS DERECOR! - My durling
Ismes, this is to wish you
a magnificent birthday
tomorrow. Save some for
Friday. With all my love,
Grace. WANTED

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ir.

LORD PHILLIPS OF ELLESMERE

Lord Phillips of Ellesmere, KBE, FRS. scientist and science policymaker, died on February 23 aged 74.

He was born in Ellesmere, Shropshire, on March 7, 1924.

avid Phillips belonged to that highly successful and much-garlanded generation of Brit-ish scienosts who used X-ray crystallography to determine the struc-ture of biological molecules. He also distinguished himself as a scientific adviser of candour and good judgment, serving as chairman of the Advisory Board for the Research Councils for ten someomes sticky years in the 1980s and

1990s. The scientific highlight of his career was his leadership of the group that determined the three-dimensional structure of the enzyme lysozyme (the first to be so anatomised) and the consequent deduction of its mode of action. This work established him as one of the leaders in the field of structural molecular biology and helped to consolidate Britain's posi-

David Chilton Phillips was born at

Ellesmere in Shropshire and attended Oswestry Boys' High School. He went on to University College, Cardiff, where he took a wartime two-year physics degree, after which he served in the RNVR as a radar officer. Returning to Cardiff, he did postgraduate studies in crystallography, and then speni four years at the National Research Council Laboratories in Ottawa. where he determined the structures of

some organic compounds with carcino-genic properties.

In 1954 Sir Lawrence Bragg, the discoverer with his father of X-ray crystallography, moved from the Cavend-ish Laboratory in Cambridge to direct the Royal Institution in London. He decided to establish a collaboration with the Cambridge laboratory funded by the Medical Research Council, where Max Perutz and John Kendrew had just achieved a breakthrough that might permit the determination of the three-dimensional structures of large molecules such as proteins. Bragg recruited four or five post-doctoral workers for this collaboration. Phillips headed the London of five ration. Phillips headed the London office of the myoglobin project, which was headed by Kendrew and which led to the

determination of the first 3-D structure of a protein molecule in

The method involved the measurement by hand of spots on photographic films and the manual transfer of the data to computers. Phillips helped to design automatic methods which produced the measurements directly on paper tape which could be fed into a computer.

The growing power

of computers extended the range of X-ray crystallography to ever more complex molecules. Enzymes are the natural catalysts which promote reactions in living systems with very high efficiency and specificity, and it was clear that a full understanding of their proper-ties required a knowledge of their structures. Phillips led the group which determined the complete structure of lysozyme in 1965, a structure even less



oglobin, but with a deep cleft on one surface which suggested how it might interact with other molecules. With the other members of the group and with C. A. Vernon, he was able to propose a mechanism for the enzyme's catalytic activ-ity which has since been shown to be essendally correct. It was the forerunner of many similar studies world-

haemoglobin and my-

The work was immediately recognised to be of very great importance. Phillips was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and was awarded many honorary degrees and a number of medals, including the Royal Medal of the Royal Society in

With Sir Lawrence Bragg's retirement from the Royal Institution, Phillips and his colleagues moved to Oxford, where he

became Professor of Molecular Biophysics. Not universally welcomed at first by the Oxford establishment, the laboratory of molecular biophysics developed good relations with chemists, biologists and biochemists. As it expanded it embarked upon many other projects on the struc-tures of enzymes, anubodies, viruses and

other macromolecular complexes. Phillips served as a vice-president of the Royal Society, 1972-73, and as biological secretary, 1976-83. He was then appointed chairman of the advisory board for the research councils, the body responsible for advising the Government on the disposition of funding for research coun-cils and universides. This brought him into contact with many leading politicians, which he relished, not least because his grandfather had been one of the first trade union MPs.

The role was a difficult one, challenged on one side by scientists demanding more money and on the other by Thatcherite parsimony. Though Phillips never per-haps decided on where his loyaldes lay. he could often be dryly witty. Charged to justify claims that the Government had maintained spending on science in a year

when it manifestly had not, he acknowledged that the Government statement on the subject "wasn't intended not 10 confuse". He once caused offence by charging physicists with "constantly de-

manding money for new toys", but calls for his resignation were easily rebuffed.

Created a life peer in 1994, he became a member of the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology in 1995 and was its chairman from 1997 until ill-health forced him to resign. He had been knighted in 1979 and appointed KBE

Rather diffident in his earlier days as a lecturer, he rapidly gained in confidence, and his friendly manner helped to smooth over difficuldes. Despite increasing ill health, he gallantly persevered with the wriong of an article putting the determina-oon of the structure of lysozyme in a historical perspective. It was complete in draft form at the ome of his death, and its publication should serve as a fitting tribute to his part in the development of structural molecular biology.

He is survived by his wife Diana, whom he married m 1960, and a daughter.

JERZY TUROWICZ

Jerzy Turowicz, Polish newspaper editor, died in Crakow nn January 27 aged 86. He was born nn December 12, 1912,

THOUGH he was always modest about his role, Jerzy Turowicz became a living symbol of what Polish intellectuals were prepared to stand up for in the Orwellian world of Communist-run Poland. For more than fifty years he was Editor-in-Chief of the Catholic Tygodnik Powszechny ("Universal Weekly"), the only major independent paper east of the Berlin Wall until the fall

of communism. He fought a long, skilful battle with the Communist regime in Poland, defending the public presence of the Catholic Church, democratic values and human rights. He was both principled and adroit. The Nobel Prize-winning poet Czeslaw Milosz

described him as "a fox". In 1953, after Stalin's death, Turowicz refused to publish a eulogy of the dictator's alleged contributions to the well-being of the new Poland, and was duly punished by the authorioes, who took his magazine away from him and his staff. When it was returned to its founding fathers in December 1956, Turowicz continued to promote the same values in

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his paper Born in Crakow and raised in a committed Roman Catholic home, Jerzy Turowicz was educated at Lvov Technical University and the Jagiellonian University of Crakow. He never accepted the idea of a poliocal Catholicism as a bulwark against liberalism or as a weapon against proponents of an "open society". Instead, he made his weekly magazine into the most coherent Polish Catholic voice for the ideas of the Second Vaocan Council. The portraits of the reform-minded Pope John XXIII and his successor Paul VI still hung in Turowice's

office at the time of his death. In the 1970s and 1980s the magazine became a forum for almost all the leading figures in the Polish democratic opposioon movement. In constant dispute with the Communist censor, Tvgodnik managed to function as a think-tank for

the new Poland, which emer-

FLATSHARE

ged in 1989 as a result of the struggles of the Solidarity movement. When talks began between Solidarity and the Communist regime, Turowicz was active as a figure respected by both sides.

One of his best friends, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, a Catho-lic activist, then became the country's first non-Communist Prime Minister for more than forty years. The new government's agenda was exactly what Tygodnik had been advocating over the years: a market economy, a pluralist society, a free media and culture. Poland serving as a bridge between East and West.

Subsequently Turovicz criti-cised the high-handed tactics of the Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, who turned against the Mazowiecki Government. Nonetheless, as President, Walesa awarded him the country's highest decoration, the Order of the White Eagle.

Turowicz was a close friend of Karol Wojtyla, the future Pope John Paul II, who made his debut as a writer in Tygodnik while still a young priest and who contributed to it until he was elected to the papacy. Like the Pope, Turowicz firmly believed that Christianity would continue to be the defining feature of European culture and tradition. With his former contributor installed on St Peter's throne in 1978. Turowicz had a new way to spread his ideas of a Church able to find a common language with the oppressed of persecuted, as well as with the spiritually hungry in every corner of the world. His advice was sought by the Pope when working on several of his

encyclicals. Turowicz served for many years as a member of various Catholic institutions, including the Polish episcopate's commission for the dialogue with Judaism and the John Paul II Foundation in Rome. He was also awarded the papal Order of St Gregory the Great He was a voracious reader of newspapers and magazines in English, French, German and Italian, and they remained for years in mount-

ing stacks in his study. Jerzy Turowicz is survived by his wife, Anna Gasiorowska, and by three daughters.

SITUATIONS

VACANT

Mary Hillier, author and authority on dolls, toys and automata, died nu February 14 aged 81. She was born in London on April 30, 1917.

MARY HILLIER was a leading expert on dolls, toys and automata, on all of which she wrote authoritative books. Her special interest was wax dolls of the 19th century: she did enterprising research into the London families with foreign names who had made them - the Montenaris and Pierottis - tracing several living descendants. Her searches in the Patent Office records yielded valuable informaoon about doll construcoon. She was also instrumental in ensuring that the Victoria and Albert Museum acquired the most famous of all English dolls, the late-17th-century couple known as "Lord and Lady Clapham", about which she published a new hypothesis earlier this year.

Mary Louise Hillier was born in 1917, the only daughter of the West End florist Harry Palmer and his wife Beatrice Amelia (née Larkam). Her mother's family claimed kinship with the painter Van Dyck Mary's maternal grandmother, Esmeralda Larkam moner, estherable Larkant (née Dick-Tidbury), caused an Edwardian scandal by running off with the boxing champion Joe Steers, who had previously been paying court to her elder daughter.

Mary Palmer was originally named Marie Louise, after Queen Victoria's granddaugh-ter: but the child's brothers, twins ten years older than she. Her first job was as secre-authority on Japanese art. mercilessly teased her with the tary to the barrister and Together they spent a lot of fingle "Marie Louise / The author C.G.L. Du Cann. She time bird-watching on Wim-



Queen of the Fleas!" and the first name was eventually.

changed to Mary. As a child, Mary Palmer was a tomboy. She envied her brothers their bicycles and football games and, ironically, had not the slightest interest in dolls. dolls. She first went to a Montessori school, then won a scholarship to Fulham County School, where she was head girl and shone in both work

and games.

then moved on to the Royal Society, and from there went as publications officer to Burl-

ington House. Mary Palmer was openfaced, an unconventional beauty with large, lustrous eyes, her hair at this time ruthlessly cut in an "Eton crop". (More than once a bus conductor addressed her as "sonny".) In the mid 1930s she mel Jack Hillier, an insurance underwriter, who later became an



Mary Hillier and the 17th-century dolls known as "Lord and Lady Clapham", which she helped to keep in Britain

bledon Common. They married in 1938. A son and a daughter were born during the war. much of which Jack Hillier spent in Aden with the

RAF. In 1947 the family moved to Mertsham, Surrey, where Mary helped her husband with his work for Sotheby's, ferrying batches of Japanese prints back and forth for cataloguing, and became an expert on the Japanese carved wood and ivory toegles known as net suke, which she collected.

experience of making puppets for glove-puppet shows in a local orphanage. Her first book, a popular work called Pageant of Toys (1967), was followed by the much more scholarly Dolls and Dollmakers (1968), and in 1976 she published Automata, dealing with ingenious mechanical toys such as monkeys that

perform conjuring tricks.

The History of Wax Dolls (1985) was deeply researched and engagingly written, and

the foremost expert on the subject. With that and with Teddy Bears: A Celebration (also 1985), she became not just a historian but a source for future writers, since she had corresponded with Sir John Betjeman about his-bear Archie and with Christopher

Robin Milne about Pooh. During the 1970s Mary Hillier acted for a wealthy Swiss collector of dolls, Marianne Bodmer, buying for her at auction. Her advice was also sought by such saleroom experts as Hilary Kay and Bunny Campione, stalwarts of The Antiques Roadshow.

She was the first to be shown "Lord and Lady Clapham!" when they arrived at Sotheby's in 1974. She bid for them on behalf of Mrs Bodmer and was successful with a bid of £10,000. Such was the outcry in the art world, however, that the Department of Trade refused an export li-cence. Mrs Bodmer, a woman of some determination, reacted by saying: "Very well, I shall take a room for Lord and Lady Clapham at Claridge's. There they will stay and there I shall visit them when I come to London." It was Hillier who tactfully persuaded her to relent and to let the V&A acquire the dolls for a little

more than she had paid. A few weeks before her death. Mary Hillier published her last book, a study of the children's book illustrator Chioe Preston (1887-1969).

Her husband predeceased her in 1995. She is survived by her son, the art historian and journalist Bevis Hillier, and by her daughter, the fashion Her interest in the history of established her reputation as designer Mary Thompson.

forcements had to be brought

JACK BRIDLE

Jack Bridle, OBE, firefighter, died on January 27 aged 91. He was born nn

June 30, 1907. JACK BRIDLE was instrumental in the creation of the wartime National Fire Service. and in its operational strategy. When the Blitz fell with full force on the industrial cides of the West Midlands in late 1940, his new tactics revolutionised the capacity of the fire service to concentrate its appliances at the scene of a blaze.

Until then it had been Home Office policy to insist on keeping a large reserve of appliances at all stations, whether or not they were fighting a fire in their own area. This was designed to allay local authority lears of air raids, but meant that only a small proportion of the available reinforcements from any given stacon would be sent to a blazing city which needed them. Men and appliances lay idle at stations nearest the fires, while rein-

in from further afield. Reinforcement was slow and the direction of fire crews at the fire itself was uncoordinated. All this changed in early November 1940 when Bridle pursued in Birmingham a tactic which he had developed in London, of mobilising towards the fire by stage reinforcement. At each stage the

nearest station moved all available appliances and men to the area under attack and was itself reinforced in turn by the next ring of stations, and so on. This total mobilisacion progressively reinforced the pumps at the scene of the fire and cut down delays in getting there. In Birmingham, despite wholesale destruction of the famous Bull Ring, this concentration of firefighong capabili-ty greatly reduced the danger to the rest of city.
Yet, within hours of first

practising this tactic, Bridle was summoned to the Home Office to face a board of inquiry presided over by Sir Arthur Dixon, the responsible Under-Secretary. Bridle received a severe reprimand for



disregarding Home Office directives and exceeding his authority - though the board noted the beneficial effects of his staged mobilisation and appropriate alteracions were subsequently made to regional standing orders.

The benefits of staged mobi-

lisation were not, however, able to control the firestorm that developed during the raid on Coventry on the night of November 14-15, 1940. The destruction wreaked on the city that night was for ever etched on Bridle's mind. At the height of the raid, while on a

ting to bed at 3pm after almost 48 hours on duty.

eldest son of a serving fireman. Since recruiting policy in those days gave preference to ex-servicemen, at 17 he joined the Royal Engineers. After six years' service, mainly in the Middle East, he qualified as a regimental instructor at the Command School of Educacion at Alexandria. But despite the attempts of his CO to persuade him to accept a posting to the Army College of

He joined the London Fire Brigade in June 1931 and gained wide experience at a number of stations in the

reconnaissance, he short found himself alone in a city centre street faced by a mulotude of fleeing rats - a memory that never left him. When King George VI visited the stricken city the following day, Bridle escorted him around the ruins, finally get-

Alfred John Bridle was born at London's famous Shaftesbury Avenue fire starion, the Education at Shornecliff, with a view to gaining a commission, he was resolved to pursue his boyhood ambioon.

metropolitan area. He was seconded to the Home Office Inspectorate of Fire Brigades in February 1940, and when the Blitz began was sent to Birmingham. After his successes in the

West Midlands, and in spite of the Home Office reprimand. Bridle was, in 1941, made No 23 Area Fire Force Commander. responsible for Warwickshire and the West Midlands. At 34 he was the youngest area commander in the country. He was appointed OBE in 1942

By early 1943 there was a marked reduction in the intensity of air raids, and he was posted to command No 4 Fire Force Area, centred on Leeds, the largest command in north-

ern England. After the war, following a brief period in command of Kent, he was appointed Chief Fire Officer of West Sussex upon the return of the fire service to local authority control in April 1948. In 1963 he

retired to Guernsey. He married, in 1936, Eva Talbot, who survives him with

FLIGHT SEARCHERS

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PERSONAL COLUMN

FLIGHTS

DIRECTORY

CHARLES PEACE EXECUTED

IFROM OUR CORRESPONDENT. Charles Peace was yesterday executed within the precincts of Armley Gaul. Leeds, for the murder of Mr Arthur Dyson at Banner-cross, Shelfield, on the 29th of November, 1876. Peace had a final interview with his relatives die previous day, and speni some time with them in earnest prayer.

Peace was now thoroughly worn out by the excitements he had passed through and the chaptain left him to seek a few hours' sleep. Peace slept soundly until a quarter to 6, and an hour later he partook very heartily of a breakfast which consisted of toast, bacon eggs and tea. The gallows was erected at the western side of the prison, and in close prominity to the hospital. Shortly before 8 o clock the prison bell began to toll, and just as the clock was striking the hour a procession was seen coming from the wing of the prison in which Peace had been continued. First came the Governor of the prison, Mr. Keene, and the Under-Sheriff, Mr. W. Gray: then came the chaplain, attired in his surplice and reading the service customary on such occasions; and immediately behind was the convict with his arms pinioned to his side and

ON THIS DAY

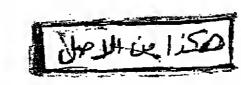
February 26, 1879 经是拥充分处

Charles Peace (1832-79) had a more adventurous life than most criminals. His burglaries were carried out with daring and skill: his ability to delude the police was notorious.

supported by a couple of warders . . . Taking his place on the scaffold, the executioner. Marwood, began to bind Peace's legs and to adjust the rope round his neck.

This done, he was in the act of putting the white cap over his head, when Peace said rather sharply. "Don't I want to look." Then, as the chaplain came to a certain portion of the service, he said with much fervency, "God have mercy upon me. Lord have mercy upon me. Christ have mercy upon me. Thinking that he had finished. Marwood again was in the act of putting the cap over his face, when

he said, "Don't; stop a bit, if you please." Then, turning to the four reporters who were standing by, he said in a loud tone. — "You gentlemen reporters. I wish you to notice the few words I am going to say to you. I know that my life has been base and bad. I wish you to ask the world after you have seen my death what man could die as I die if he did not die in the fear of the Lord. Tell all my friends that I what man continue was their in this not in the fear of the Lord. Tell all my friends that I feel sure they have sincerely forgiven me, and that I am going into the kingdom of Heaven at last. Amen. Say that my last wishes and my last respects are to my dear children and to their dear mother. I hope no person will disgrace them by taunting them or jeering at them on my account, but will have mercy upon them. God bless you, my children! My children, each good-bye. Heaven bless you! Good-bye. Amen. Oh. my Lord God, have mercy upon me!" Then Marwood placed the cap over his face, and as he was doing it, Peace, in quite a different tone from that in which he had been speaking, said, "I should like a drink: have you a drink to give me!" Taking no notice of the request, the chaplain continued his prayers, but Peace again interrupted, and asked "for a drink." The service was now near its close, and just as the service was now near its close, and just as the chaplain came to the words. "Lord Jesus receive his spirit." Marwood putted the bolt, and the wretched man disappeared from view. Death was instantaneous ...



Habit & TV

Preview: An unlikely duo sets off in an around-the-world yacht race in Murder Most Horrid. (BBC2, 9pm)

Review: "Infidelity could raise some issues which are uncomforta-

ble. Don't worry, it doesn't." Paul#

THE TIMES TODAY

Miracle boy rescued from snow

■ The rescue of a four-year-old boy, trapped under snow for almost two hours, yesterday encouraged first aid workers and Austrian soldiers to continue their increasingly desperate search for survivors of one of the most deadly avalanches ever experienced in the Tyrolean Alps.

The boy, still in intensive care but said to be smiling, was found clinically dead after 100 minutes under the deep layer of snow which swept into the small village of Valzur...... Pages 1, 4, 5

Lawrence informants named in report

■ Scotland Yard was offering secrel informants in the Stephen Lawrence investigation special police protection last night after their identities were published in the Macpherson report. Sir William Macpherson of Cluny, who chaired the inquiry into the case, issued a public apology for the blunder Pages 1, 6

'Junkets' revealed Jack Cunningham, the Cabinet

Office minister known as "Junket Jack", had his reputation for high living confirmed when he declared a list of free hospitality in the last 12 months.....Page 1

Tory support rises

Support for the Conservative Party has risen to 30 per cent for the first time since the 1997 election, according to the latest MORI poll for The Times......Pages 1, 12

New 'C' named

Richard Dearlove, the present director of operations at M16, is to be the new "C" - the Chief of the Secret Intelligence Service, Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, an-...Page 1 nounced....

Uni 'head' caught

A schizophrenic woman who earned almost £200,000 after fooling a university into making her a department head has been sent to the secure psychiatric unit after two years on the run......Page 3

Noel's House empty

Noel's House Party, the Saturday night staple which irritated celebrities and television critics alike, was axed by the BBC Page 3

Dome party hits snag

A church boycott of new year celebrations at the Millennium Dome moved closer as organisers failed to support a guarantee that religion would be at the centre of

Income news sought The Government wants Britons to disclose their annual income in the next official census, a White Paper is expected to announce next week...

Wave power

Machines named Whiplash and Limpet are to pioneer the commerical development of wave power in Britain. The technology is to be backed after studies showed that costs have halved......Page 14

Kosovo confusion

It was symptomatic of the State Department's confusion over Kosovo that its PR people were unable to say whether Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, would be returning to the peace talks in three weeks Page 19

Jet plunges into sea Four people were killed when an

ftalian passenger airliner on a flight from Sardinia plunged into the sea while trying to land at Genoa airport...

Death sentence

The white supremacist convicted of dragging a black man to an agonising death behind a pick-up truck was sentenced to death last

Free after 41 years

Looking gaunt but healthy, the man believed to be world's longest serving political prisoner shuffled out of a South Korean jail af-.....Page 8 ter 41 years...

Park performance goes to the dogs

A selection of likely looking Crufts contenders went on parade in London to demonstrate that the annual dog show is about more than pedigree. It also emphasises training and good behaviour. Unfortunately, the latter seemed to be in short supply. A quartet of bull terriers had to be allowed to romp off their high spirits by belting round Green Park....

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,037



The 100-year-old magnolia at the National Trust's Overbecks Gardens in South Devon is blooming - a yearly sign that spring is near

Telecoms bonanza sale: Nearly El billion worth of shares in two of Britain's most highly valued telephone companies -- Orange and COLT Telecom - were put on the Page 31

New Birmingham: Three property companies which planned to build competing shopping malls in Birmingham have joined forces in a Poetry scheme: Top business exec-

utives swapped their pinstripes for the quill as part of a new scheme to raise interest in poetry Page 31 Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell 101.1 points to 6206.5. The pound rose 0.53 cents to \$1.6040 but fell 0.36p against the euro to 68.51p. The sterling index fell to 100.6 from ...Page 34

Footbalk Wembley shareholders have been urged to make up their

minds about the future of the stadium in order to assist the FA's bid for the 2006 World Cup Page 60 Cricket: South African authorities may change some of the game's terms - including Chinaman - in order to avoid giving offence to racial groups.... Tennis: Yevgeny Kafelnikov is only a single success away from becoming the world No I after his victory over Davide Sanguinette in the

Guardian Direct Cup in London vesterday.... . Page 60 Rugby union: Victories in the Allied Dunbar Premiership next season will earn two points instead of three - while the World Cup is taking

Tomorrow in

The Saturday Times

Play Homer's

'Find the nuclear rod'

game in the new

SIMPSONS

comic strip

Finnish guests: Finland's Lahti Symphony Orchestra, celebrating its 50th birthday, is making its British debut at Symphony Hall in Birmingham this weekend with a programme of Sibelius......Page 42 Week in the Arts: "My dears, your

bosoms should swell with pride, for we undoubtedly lead the world in the Barmy Millennium Ideas department," writes Richard Morri-.....Page 43 Pop marriage: The Chieftains, Ire-

land's best-loved traditional music group, have teamed up with the Corrs, the glossiest stars in the pop firmament... Teen ambition: Britney Spears, not

yet 18, is at No 1 in the US album and singles charts, and she has her ... Page 56 sights set on Britain........ Page 45

House style: Now that she is working from home, Jane Shilling needs a personal shopper to sort out her wardrobe.. Too soon: The death of a prema-

ture baby is an all too common trag-

Raymond Snoddy: "What needs to be done at the BBC is partly a matter of changing its tone and culture, but there are also immediate things to be done to ensure that the corporation remains the pre-eminent public service proadcaster well into the next century"...... Page 47 Rap attack: A rap video and CD are. being used to boost ethnic minority

Parent pressure: Beware of putting too much pressure on your children to pass exams for high-achieving schools. A more relaxed approach may suit them better Page 51

police recruitment...

American diplomats devoted considerable time and energy to the mission of imposing a peace agreement on Serbia and a delegation of Albanian Kosovans who convened at the chateau of Rambouillet in Clinton Administration officials seek to portray the outcome of the conference as a postponed success

rather than a diplomatic failure.

The Boston Globe

.... Pages 58, 59

Race in the classroom Schools certainly will not benefit by being set against each other in a racism league table. Teachers already face difficulties in the maintenance Page 27 of discipline

The world of Woo

It is the sleep of Rip Van Winkle, except that it is not sleep. That has been the world of Woo Yong-gak, the Korean who stood for the first time since 1958 on liberty's peopled thoroughfares Page 27

Good signals

Not since Gladstone's Railway Act of 1844 has the Government spelt. out so clearly what it wanted the railways to do......Page 27

PETER RIDDELL

Eurosceptics claim that the People (and it is always in capital letters) are on their side. They should not be so sure.....

SIMON JENKINS

Rail management is an art as well as a science. After the wrong sort of leaves and the wrong sort of snow, benighted passengers are now being offered "the wrong sort of privatisation" to excuse a declining quality of service......Page 26

MARY ANN SIEGHART Why will I be sharing a platform

with David Owen and many others who fought for a "yes" vote in 1975, to argue for Britain to stay out of the single currency?...... Page 26

PHILIP HOWARD

Nonsense can be poetry. But it also behoves us to cry "nonsense" when we see it. Poetry is what survives the crying.....

Lord Phillips of Ellesmere, scientist; Mary Hillier, expert on dolls; Jerzy Turowicz, Polish journalist; Jack Bridle, firefighter Page 29

Criteria for British adopoon of euro: Macpherson report: police complaints: Bahamas v Yeovil; Stonehenge; Yemen trial; trenchcoats; Brits abroad......Page 27

I Horse has a lot to carry - could

tion (5).

be damaging (7).
5 Tremulous family trapped in

bog (7). 9 Shruh giving shelter to park officer, by the sound of it (9). 10 Timeless rock used as founda-

11 Monument for Paris - Priam and Hector rebuilt the outer parts (3.2.8). 13 It rusted disastrously, turning into debris (8).

15 Bodyguard employed by firm in Derby (6). 17 Room to manoeuvre and turn fish around (6).

19 Seek tall eccentric, extremely thin (8]. 22 Push off and start to fish? (5.4.4).

Solution to Puzzle No 21.036



25 King and Queen tucked into cav iare, say, on return trip (5). 26 One included in proposals

about good church music (9).

Acrobat used to drink (7).

25 is maturer, somehow (7). park's I It shows amusement

DOWN

boundary (2-2). 2 Revise Marxist collection (7).

3 No love, in general, for foreign money (5). Line of fire in wood (8). Source of information victim

pursued (6). 6 Delicious salami, ordered and cut by brother (9). 7 One new drink I had, not deli-

cious at all (7). Important principle of Phrygian king's government? (6.4).

12 Teenager getting to the top with out help from the State (10). 14 Opening during summer, Russian flower (9).

peak in Scottish island (8). 18 Saw English farm animals (7). Obtain date (4.3). 21 Gunman frets over wasting ener-

16 Aerial picture showing singular

gy (6). 23 He has a wife, a remarkable person all round (5). 24 Letters from British Isles turn

Times Two Crossword, page 60

up before noon (4).

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OTHER BOTTO **Veather** by Fax 414 241 414 343

World City Weather Other Comments 0374 41 13 14

A Car reports by fax

HOURS OF DARKNESS Sun rises: 6.53 am Sun sets: 5.34 pm

London 5.34 pm to 6.51 am Bristol 5.45 pm to 7.01 am Edinburgh 5.40 pm to 7.11 am Manchester 5.40 pm to 7.33 am Penzance 5.58 pm to 7.11 am

NEWSPAPERS



second token, see page 42 THESTIMES



☐ General: N parts of England and Wales will have sunny spells, showers. The rest of England and Wales mild, with rain becoming confined to SE Scotland and N Ireland cold, which sunny spells and showers. the showers becoming heavy and writing over mountains. Torught, cold, windy in Scotland with heavy writing showers; N England and Wales will become drier, the south mild with some drizzle.

☐ Ldn, SE Eng, Ch'i let cloud/, light ram:
Inghter later. Mod SW wind Max 11C (52F)
☐ E Anglia, Cent S, E, SW Eng, Midlids,
S Wates: c'out; damp start stowy brightering !! Jud SW wind Max 10C (50F)
☐ N Wates. NW, Cent N Eng, Lakes,
low: sunny speils, showers, maybe turning

heavy. Mod/fresh SW wind. Max 10C (50F)

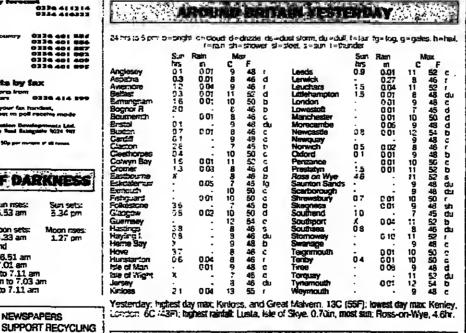
NE England: surmy spells and a few showers. Fresh SW wind. Max 9C (48F) showers. Fresh SW wirid. Max 9C (48F)

Bridrs, E'burgh & D'dee, A'deen, Mry
Fritz showery. Wintry showers in highlands
A little sun. Fresh SW wind. Max 7C (45F)

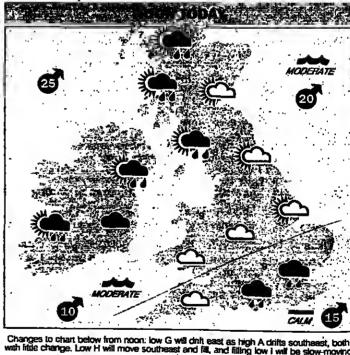
SW, NE, NW Scottland, G'gow, Cent.
Highlands, Argyfl, Orlony, Shettlic bright
spells, heavy showers, wintry over mountains Fresh/strong SW wind. Max 7C (45F)

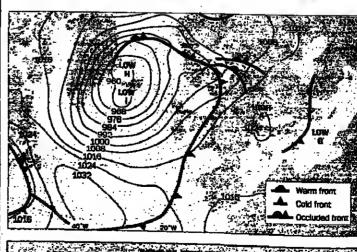
N Ireland: heavy showers. Sunny breaks
in E Fresh/strong SW wind. Max 9C (48F)

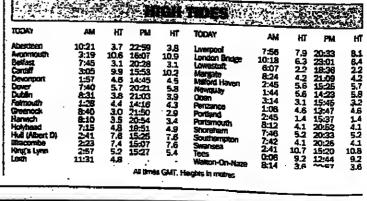
I Irlah Rec: showers, some heavy, prolong-I Irish Rept showers, some heavy, prolonged in N. Mod/fresh SW wind Max 10C (50F) Outlook mild, rain in SE on Sat; else-



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Business

Today

Shades

of grey

The wrong price for

the right trousers?

Page 35

STOCK MARKET

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 26 1999

Telecoms groups in £1bn stock sale

Orange and **COLT** fuel share frenzy

By Chris Ayres

NEARLY El billion worth of shares in two of Britain's most highly valued telephone companies. Orange and COLT Telecom, were put up for sale yesterday.

The share sales come amid a frenzy of takeover activity in the telecoms sector, fuelled by the increasing popularity of mobile phones, and growing demand for both consumer and business Internet services.

Telecoms companies now enjoy higher valuations than ever, with Orange and COLT both listed in the FTSE-100 in spite of never having made profits. Orange is valued at worth £7.6 billion, while COLT is worth £7.6 billion. About 50 million shares in

Orange, Britain's third-largest mobile phone company, were put on the market when Hutchison Whampoa, the Hong Kong investment trust, said it would reduce its stake in the company from 49 per cent to 44.8 per cent. The sale was conducted by Goldman Sachs, the investment bank. The shares were sold at 865p

each, raising more than £430 million for Hutchison, Although analysts yesterday said the sale made Orange look vulnerable to a takeover. bid, Hurchison sought to reassure investors by saying it would "maintain a substantial shareholding position of almost 45 per cent in the future". wares of Orange yesterday

closed 5 per cent down at 907p. Following the share sale, Orange's two original shareholdcontrolling stake in the company. Although BAe yesterday said it had no immediate plans to sell its 5 per cent stake in the company, it acknowlThe future **45**—£3.5m for Snook

ing in comment implies with or e-prints. The com-whetendingly man-y Hulfarson White the Hope Kaip or

edged that the investment was 'not a core business". Meanwhile, COLT Telecom, an upstart competitor to

former state-owned telephone companies throughout Europe, proposed to raise £500 million through the issue of ordinary shares and senior convertible notes.

The company, which operers. Hutchison and British Aer-ospace (BAe) no longer own a ates in 12 European cities, said it needed the cash to build more local telephone networks, and then link them together. COLT also needs cash to increase its capability to provide Internet services throughout

ty of the services it provides.

Orange and COLT both announced results yesterday. Orange pleased analysts with a

29 per cent reduction in pretax losses to £98.1 million for the year to December 31, while sales rose 33 per cent to £1.2 billion. Losses per share fell from 12p to 8p. The company said it had 2.16 million customers at the end of 1998, and a market share of 16.6 per cent, com-pared with 14.2 per cent the

previous year. Hans Snook, the company's managing director, also admit-ted that the company was in talks with several French and Germany companies to become a so-called "virtual network operator". This would involve bulk buying billions of minutes of air-time from a company such as Germany's E-Plus, and using them to run a rival service, using Orange's customer service and branding.

At the same time, COLT reported a rise in pre-tax losses from £32.5 million to £55.6 million, while sales rose by 164 per cent to £215 million. The company said the enormous rise in sales was caused by further liberalisation of European telecoms markets, and growing demand for corporate Internet services. Losses per share rose

from 0.07p to 0.1p. Paul Chisholm, president and chief executive, said: "1998 was the year when the majority of customers throughout Europe had real choice of telecommunication services supplier for the first time. COLT has been a significant beneficiary."
Shares of COLT closed 13.3

per cent down at £11.45%. Neither COLT nor Orange is paying a dividend.

Tempus, page 34



Developers unite in £800m

deal to tear down Bull Ring

Looking back unattractive in the 1960s, the Bull Ring has remained an eyesore. The Bulldozers move in during 2001

By Fraser Nelson

THREE property companies that planned to build competing shopping malls in Birmingham have joined forces in a £800 million plan to tear down the Bull Ring Centre one of the least-loved innercity developments in Britain.

Land Securities, Hammerson and Henderson Investors will each spend about £267 million in an attempt to transform the Bull Ring from a national eyesore into a magnet for some 7.2 million shoppers. The three firms have abantwo rival shopping centres af-ter realising that department stores were asking them to undercut each other on rents. Neil Varnham, head of re-

tail property at Henderson Investors, said: "We both need big department stores, and we knew we were both talking to the same ones. They were playing us off against each other." The development will offer

26 million sq ft of retail space the size of 26 football pitches. It will be built in four stages. The first will rehouse market traders

the old Bull Ring Centre in 2001, and the £360 million replacement should be complete by 2003. It will have eigh! flagship stores, including Deben-hams, 200 other shops and offer parking for 3.000.

The Martineau Galleries will be built in two phases: the first costing about £80 million starting next year, the second costing about £360 million and starting after 2004.

In the event of a sharp economic downturn. The developers may not proceed with the second phase.

the original Bull Ring, a market founded under charter by Edward II in 1166 and traders have been present ever since, It was named after the area, which held bulls before slaughter, and was bombed in the War, then hurriedly rebuilt in the 1950s.

Carl Chinn, a history lectur-er at Birmingham University, said: "For working class Brummies, the Bull Ring is Birmingham. If the developers can make it the centre of the city again, I'm all for it."

Commentary, page 33



SSS S BOLLAR

__ \$287.85 (\$287.65

BAe braced for late take-off by restyled Airbus

By ADAM JONES

INTISH Aerospace yesterday gave warning that the restructuring of Airbus, the pan-European civil aircraft consorourn, is likely to be delayed unol next year at the earliest. Airbus is an unwieldy collab-oration between BAe, Dasa of

Germany, Aérospatiale of France and Casa of Spain. The partners had aimed at transforming it into a transparent. stand-alone company - with millions of pounds of cost savings - by the start of 1999. However, Mike Turner, head of BA's Airbus operations, yes-terday admitted: "The process is stalled. I will be very surprised if there is a single corporate entity this year." Mr Turner claimed that the

delay was linked to privatisayon of Aérospaoale. Some in-sustry observers, however, blame bad feeling between the parties. Merger talks between BAe and Dasa alienated the French, while BAe's planned merger with Marconi Electronic Systems has upset Dasa.



Evans: arms-for-oil deal

Evans is chairman, also indicated it received more than £565 million in cash from Saudi Arabia last month under the al-Yamamah arms-for-oil deal. This was to compensate it for falling oil prices. BAe is paid mainly in Saudi crude under the rolling contract for war-

planes and support services.

BAe said 1998 profits were £685 million before tax and exceptional items, up from £599 milhon. A 4.15p final dividend makes a total of 6.5p (4.88p).

Britannia members share £41m

By RICHARD MILES

PETER MANDELSON, the former Trade and Industry Secretary, is among about one million Britannia Building Society customers who will share a £41 million mutuality

Britannia said yesterday that its members would receive bonuses averaging £41 after reporting a 13 per cent in-crease in 1998 pre-tax profits to £130.4 million.

The maximum payout will e £500 and the minimum El.10. Mr Mandelson qualifies for a bonus because he still has his mortgage with Bri-tannia, even though he has out his house in Notting Hill, London, up for sale.

Britannia had returned £115 million of profits to members over three years as a demon-stration of the benefits of remaining a mutual building so-

Graham Stow, Britannia's chief executive, said: "Mutuality means more than good val-ue products and quality service. We offer a long-term relationship and a sympathetic approach when our members

UK will escape recession, **CBI** predicts

By Alasdair Murray, economics correspondent

THE BRITISH economy is set to stall in the first half of this year but the country should avoid an outright recession. the Confederation of Briosh Industry predicted yesterday. The CBI said it had reduced

its 1999 growth forecast from 0.7 per cent to 0.5 per cent, with growth in the first six months of the year falling to zero. However, Kate Barker, CBl

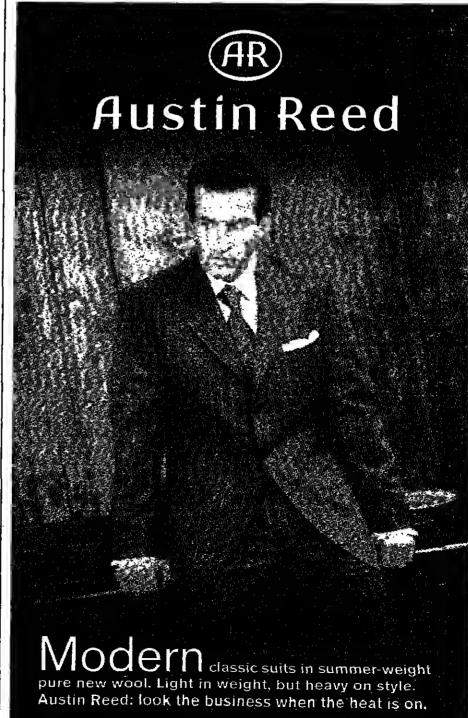
chief economic adviser, added that there are tentative signs that the economic outlook is already improving with interest rate cuts beginning to have an

The CBI industrial trends survey, which was also published yesterday, showed manufacturing order books im-proving modestly, although the data is still pointing to an overall contraction in the sector. The balance of companies reporting falling order books fell to its lowest level since last August while the number of manufacturers reporting declining export orders is at its lowest level for nearly a year.

"Manufacturers will be stuck in recession for some months to come, but many sectors will escape the downturn

entirely," Ms Barker said. The CBI forecasts had little impact on the stock market. which tracked Wall Street lower, bringing an abrupt end to its record-breaking run. The FISE 100 index of leading shares closed down 101.1 at 6,206.5 after hitting a fresh intra-day peak of 6,319.8. Shares on Wall Street had tumbled about 130 points by lunchtime owing to renewed fears over the outlook for US rates.

The pound recovered some ground against the dollar to close up at \$1.6040. Sterling. however, cononued to slide against the euro despite German inflation data raising fears that the country is on the verge of deflation. The annual rate of pan-German inflation increased by just 0.2 per cent in January — the lowest rate since German reunification. The euro climbed from 68.51p



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Swedes investigate Archer trade

By Richard Miles and Caroline Merrell

THE Swedish stock exchange is investigating an equity trade by James Archer, sun of Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare and a member of the group of Credit Suisse First Boston bankers known as the Flaming Ferraris.

The investigation is believed to be centred on a single equity transaction hat may have breached the Stockholm exchange's rules of market conduct. The exchange was unavailable for comment last night. A spokesman for CSFB, the Swiss-US investment bank. declined to comment on the investigation. All European equity transactions are conducted through the London office, where the five members of the Flaming Ferraris all work.

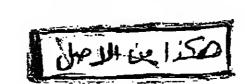
Three of the group, including Mr Archer, were suspended last week pending an internal inquiry. The Securities and Futures * ...iority, the regula-

tor for investment banks, has been informed of their suspensions and is believed to be monitoring the situation. The Flaming Ferraris — named after their favourite rum cocktail every Friday night at the Nam Long Vietnamese restaurant in Knightsbridge, London had expected to receive large bonuses after achieving substantial gains last year by exploiong anomalies in the

pricings of different exchange.

The other two suspended members the group are David Crisano and Adrian Ezra. Their group had earned a reputation in the City for taking large bets — someomes as high as £3 billion — on share price movements throughout the European markets.

CSFB will announce its year-end results within the next couple of weeks. The bank is expected to outline its loss-



RJB offers miners improved pay deal

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE first miners' strike by the Union of Democratic Mineworkers seems likely to be averted after RJB

Mining yesterday in-creased its pay offer. The leadership of the moderate union, which split from the National Union of Mineworkers during the last national strike 15 years ago, accepted the deal in last-minute talks before a scheduled walkout on Monday. It is now asking members to back the new offer at pit-head ballots.

RJB increased its offer for this year from 2 per cent to 3.1 per cent. Thereafter it will pay annual in-creases of 2 per cent until 2003. It raised rates for overtime and scrapped a plan for a no-strike clause on redundancy packages. Neil Greatrex, president

of the UDM, said: "We have improved on the origi-nal offer in what are difficult times for the industry." Richard Budge. RJB

chief executive, said: "The improvements we have agreed with the UDM are a sensible compromise. The NUM is currently balloting its members on

industrial action. Separately, the High Court yesterday reserved judgment on a claim by Nacods, the pit deputies un-ion, that RJB is forcing employees to work more hours than the 48-hour maximum working week set out by the European Working Time Directive. Judgment on the claim is expected next week.

EXCHANGE RATES

	Bank Buys	Sank Sells
ustralia S	2.65	2.48
ustna Sch	21.01	19.34
elgum Fr	61.83	55.87
anada S	2.532	2.344
YDRUS CVD £	0.8861	0.8146
enmark kr	11.40	10.51
gypt	5.69	5.08
riland Wid	9.19	8.44
rance Fr	10.01	9.23
ermarty Dm	3.006	2.764
reese br	495	456
ong hong S	13.26	1206
eland	128	1.08
donesia	17763	12763
eland Pt	1.1993	1.1103
rael Shk	6.85	6.19
alγ (υπ)	2990	2753
ipan Yeri	207.53	190.00
lalta	0.664	0.605
etherias Gid	3.394	3.099
ew Zealand S	3.19	2.95
orway Kr	13.22	12.28
ortugal Esc	303.99	281.96
Ainca Rd	10.55	9.59
pain Pta	253.38	234.59
weden Kr	13.85	12.75
witzerland Fr	2.465	2.247
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David Prosser, L&G chief executive, said he had not received any approaches, in spite of the consolidation taking place in the insurance industry

L&G shares drop as Prosser prepares to sacrifice margins

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

SHARES in Legal & General, the composite insurer, fell 12 per cent yesterday as it unveiled annual results and proposed a one-for four share

Analysts marked the stock down after David Prosser, the group chief executive, said that he was prepared to sacrifice margin for volume. Mr Prosser, who has been

vocal about L&G's intentions to stay independent, said that he had not received any approaches from fellow compos-ites in spite of the consolidation taking place in the insur-ance industry.

The shares fell 109 p to

789p yesterday in spite of a 13 per cent rise in operating profits to £369 million, in line with analysts' expectations. The dividend rises 14 per cent to 14.48p a share from 12.7p.

million, up 21 per cent, while funds under management rose to £83 billion from £62

L&G has been building up the amount of business sold cial advisers (IFAs). Mr

UNITED Assurance Group

(UAG) is ending 150 years of

history by stopping door-to-

door collection of premiums

for life and savings policies

(Marianne Curphey writes). Alan Frost, appointed chief executive eight months

ago, said that the practice was no longer cost effective

and he wanted to target

more affluent customers.

Collection by standing order

and direct debit will go on.

UAG yesterday reported a

of new business came through IFAs in 1998. Mr Prosser added that the group was striving for mar-ket share and volume

fall in 1998 pre-tax profits to £193.9 million, from £226.7

ing has been to consistently growth to drive profits, and was comfortable cutting margins and taking a lower re-

give the customer a good deal and we have accepted that we will have thinner margins in doing that, but we will rebuild our profits

turn on capital to achieve that. He said: "Our position-

UAG ends doorstep call

volved made its financial

products too expensive for

million in 1997. Operating its low-income customers. profits rose to £149.6 million. The sector is still dominated by the Co-operative Insur-ance Society and by Britanfrom £141.9 million. Earnings per share, be-fore exceptional items, fell nic Assurance, with which UAG is rumoured to have from 59.7p to 44.9p. The divi-dend rises by almost 17 per cent to 24.5p. from 21p. The held merger talks. Mr Frost declined to comment on shares fell 16thp to 543thp. Prudential Corporation whether he had received any

approaches from Britannic. UAG was formed by the merger of Refuge Assurance and United Friendly. door collection of premiums

life sales rose 24 per cent to £137 million, while single-pre-mium sales advanced 50 per cent to £446 million.

New individual pensions business grew to £137 million, up 29 per cent while annual premium sales grew almost 14 per cent to E77 million and single-premlum pension sales grew 56 per cent to £607 mil-lion.

Single payment Pep and unit trust sales of £755 were up 32 per cent. Sales through independent financial advisers grew 31 per cent to £191 million while sales through direct channels more than doubled to £66 million.

The UK life and pensions pre-tax operating profit rose 13 per cent to £261 million while management of external funds turned in £32 million from £21 million a year

Smith & Nephew hopes for 10% boost

has already ended door-to-

because the high costs in-

SMITH & NEPHEW, the hip and knee implant group that also sells Nivea cream, is hoping its recent reorganisa-tion will enable it to produce earnings growth approaching 10 per cent this year (Paul Durman writes).

After the disruption caused by 400 job losses and other upheavals, Chris O'Donnell, chief executive, said: "It's really good to see the energy that's being liberated by this process.

Smith & Nephew is concentrating on orthopaedic implants, wound care and tools and cameras for key-hole surgery to try to end years of flat profits. Last year, urderlying pre-tax profits fell 5 per cent to £152 million, although the £18 million cost of the reorganisation reduced the total to £134.5 million.

The group will spend £52 million on rationalisation this year as it closes more factories. This is intended to pro-

duce £20 million of annual savings on top of the £1S million already achieved. Mr O'Donnell blamed £15 million of the fall in profits on the strength of the pound, and another £4 million on de-lays with Dermagraft, the artificial skin product, which will not reach the US market for another year.

Smith & Nephew said that its underlying sales grew by 5 per cent, and by 6 per cent in orthopaedics and endoscopy. Reported sales were little changed at £1.05 billion, with £237.7 million com-ing from orthopaedics. £173.9 million from endoscopy and £212.7 million

ny has received several offers for its knee-bracing business in the US. A final dividend of 3.8p leaves the total unchanged at 6.2p. Smith & Nephew shares rose 254p to 183p.

from wound management.

Mr O'Donnell said that the compa-

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

German insurers act over tax threat

INSURANCE companies in Germany are stepping up their action against a government plan to impose new taxes that could raise up to DM20 billion (£7.1 billion). Mannheimer Versicherungsgruppe yesterday confirmed that it had stopped buying German government bonds. The move comes after a threat by Allianz, Germany's largest insurer, to transfer business out of Germany if the tax reform went ahead. Hans Schreiber, Mannheimer's chief executive, said that his company was switching its investments to govern-

ment bonds issued by other euro participants, and added that more German insurers may do the same.

The changes to taxation rules planned by Germany's Social Democratic/Green coalition Government focus on the treatment of insurers' loss reserves, which Herr Schreiber said could not German non-life insurers. 30 per cent of their said could cost German non-life insurers 30 per cent of their equity, or the equivalent of four years of profits. According to Germany's insurance federation, the country's insurers had DM150 billion invested in German government bonds out of a total of DM1.448 billion of investments at the end of last

Forte loan facility

SIR ROCCO FORTE has negotiated a £50 million loan face ty from Bank of Scotland to fund his new hotel company's ambitious expansion plans. Sir Rocco has taken out the 20-year loan through Sir Rocco Forte and Family Plc, set up in the wake of Granada's hostile takeover of Forte in 1996. "This facility gives us the firepower to continue the growth which has seen us build a portfolio of eight luxury hotel projects during our first two years." Sir Rocco said yesterprojects during our first two years." Sir Rocco said yesterday. His most recent projects are a 170-room hotel in Manchester and a 197-room property in Berlin.

Daimler accelerates

DAIMLERCHRYSLER, the German-American car group, made an 68.15 billion (£5.6 billion) pre-tax profit in its first year as a merged entity - a 32 per cent rise on the pro-forma combined profits of the two carmakers in 1997. However, net profits before exceptionals, including the 6685 million cost of the merger, fell from 66.5 billion in 1997 to 64.8 billion. Reve-nues rose from 6117.6 million to 6131.8 billion, an increase of 12 per cent. Daimler Chrysler is weighing up whether to buy a stake in Nissan, the struggling Japanese carmaker.

Pifco dips on sales

PIPCO, the small electrical appliances company, said that sales in December and January were disappointing. "The UK consumer remains cautious, despite interest rate falls," said Michael Webber, chairman. In the six months to October 31, the difficult conditions, particularly in export markets, meant that pre-tax profit edged down from £2.1 million to £2 million as sales fell from £24.2 million to £21.4 million. Earnings per share fell from 9.9p to 9.3p, but Pifco is maintaining its interim dividend at 3p. Its shares closed down 8½p at 132½p.

London Bridge ahead

LONDON BRIDGE SOFTWARE, the credit risk management software specialist, reported a near-doubling in sales and profits last year and said that the outlook was good, with further improvement from recent acquisitions. The company reported full-year pre-tax profits of £7.3 million on sales of £22.3 million. The company said that the advent of the single currency will increase demand for new management systems. The total dividend is up 50 per cent to 4.5p. Yesterday. the shares were up 75p to £17.90.

QSP shares soar

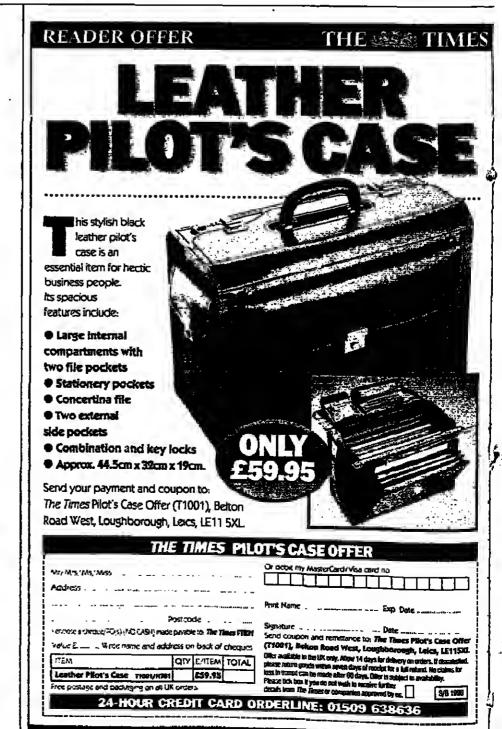
SHARES in Quality Software Products soared 15 per cent yesterday after the company announced the launch of two products that it said would significantly improve company budget forecasting and employee expense-claim processes. The financial software products will be available through organisations' intranet facilities and are the result of a new strategic partnership with Extensity, a Californian software house. QSP shares were up 60p at 455p.

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CHANGING TIMES

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Tanted: a team of politicians with time on their hands, an appetite for hard work and an interest in the world of finance. The number of world of mance. The number of potential candidates, probably not high to begin with, will inevitably be further reduced by the added stipulation that the interest in matters financial should not be taimed by any involvement with financial institutions. Perhaps it is the shortage of possible members that has delayed the establishment of the

layed the establishment of the parliamentary committee due to scrutinise the Bill set to revolutionise financial regulation in Britain. But if it does not get down to business very soon, the members will find themselves putting in some long sessions if there is to be any hope of it finishing its work by the end of April

The Financial Services Authority is a reality, now erisconced in its Canary Wharf tower, but it regulates only with borrowed powers, those conferred on the orgamisations it has now gathered under its umbrella. The FSA needs the Financial Services and Markets Bill to hit the statute books before it can become a fully fledged super regulator. That its scheduled to happen next year but steering this intensely compli-cated and controversial Bill through the legislative process will be a demanding task. Let-ing a parliamentary joint committee take a close look at the Bill

Marsh with solid foundation

first could streamline proceed-ings but much will depend on the calibre of the committee and, in particular, its chairman.

A cross-bench peer is expected to be appointed to this crucial

to be appointed to this crucial task. One name being suggested is that of Lord Marsh. The former Labour Minister left the Commons in 1975 to become chairman of British Rail but his credentials for casting a careful eye over the future of financial regulation include. regulation include a spell as chairman of the Laurentian ficharman of the Laurentian fi-nancial group. More recently, Lord Marsh popped up as the chairman of Business for Ster-ling, the lobby group determined to preserve the pound. He has now handed that task to Rodney Leach, although retaining an involvement as president of the campaign. That would probably not be too time consuming to pre-

ship of the parliamentary com-mittee. And someone has to do it. Despite some changes that have already been made to the Bill, there are still fears in some quarters that the powers being proposed for the FSA could be in contravention of European provisions on human rights. The new regulator will have powers to

vent him taking on the chairman-



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

levy unlimited fines in certain cases. In the wake of the personal pensions scandal, there will be some parliamentarians who think that such powers may well be necessary. The chairman of the FSA, Howard Davies, does not believe that the Bill would create a monster. But if the joint committee indicated real con-cerns, then the legislation could be gently reshaped without jeop-ardising the entirety.

More good people write for the shelf

lmost everyone in busi-ness would like some The trouble is that niggling rules bore politicians too. It is bad enough being faced with lengthy debates on financial regulation but the auditing requirements made of tiny companies do not have MPs leaping to their feet de-manding action. Even fairly uncontentious matters raised decades ago never reach the statute book unless they can be slipped into some Bill required to put EU directives into UK law.

Not surprisingly, issues accumulate on the shelf until their combined weight triggers some vast set-piece inquiry. Voluminous reports full of detailed proposals are bound to follow. Then comes total inaction. The all-embracing review set up by Marga-ret Beckett in her DTI days was meant to satisfy trendy demands for company law to be rewritten. The agenda was to shrink shareholders rights in favour of employees, the Community and any others who could claim the recently fashionable but already forgotten status of stakeholder. It was also meant to frighten com-

panies into obeying the volun-tary corporate governance codes. The Steering Group dutifully devotes a short chapter of its 214 page initial consultation docu-ment to stakeholder matters. The outcome is a series of interesting questions for student essays, that can be left to hang in the ether.

Almost inevitably, given the massive lobby and saintly virtue of small businesses, their com-

plaints attract far more support. Blinded by tears of admiration, like so many previous commit-tees, this one would clearly prefer to remove all transparency from their affairs, if Brussels would allow. Failing that, compa-ny law should be rewritten for small firms, with big companies being added on the end. This reversal of roles sounds at-

tractive but it reverses history.

Company Law was set up for joint stock companies. Small firms just jumped on the limited liability bandwagon. Most companies should not exist. If a new way can be found of limiting risk

for new businesses without cutting them off from credit, fine. Otherwise, the review should concentrate on two practical problems. The first is how to

achieve rolling reform of company law in bite-sized chunks. The equivalent of the Accounting Standards Board would fit the bill. The second is how to lobby to get the right EU directives, and then ensure they lapse after 20 years instead of straitjacket-ing our economies for ever.

Two hats thrown into the Bullring

Birmingham can only be a better place after the attentions of two of the country's largest property companies. That Land Securities and Hammerson are joining forces to redevelop the city centre should be applauded. It is a sensible solution to a stand off that had seen them both planning major schemes which, in competition, would have been chasing the same tenants. Co-operation is an adult so-lution to the problem. It should also streamline marketing costs.

Whether central Birmingham really can become the continen-tal-looking piazza of the artist's impression is another matter. But the two developers would find it difficult to produce any-thing less lovely than the Bullring Centre, a slum almost from the day the builders left. Land Securities has long been committed to town centre developments, largely eschewing the

rush to out-of-town development Current chief executive Ian Henderson insists that he shares his predecessors' convictions. Hammerson, however, was responsible for the first major out-of-town shopping centre, at Brent Cross. With enormous foresight, the company took a former dog rac-ing track and turned it into a shopping mecca.

Now the Government is insistent that there will be no more such schemes, so ambitious developers have no choice but to return to the city centres. The Bir-mingham scheme could become a blueprint for future inner city partnerships.

Eastern promise

WHILE interest-rate sensitive sav-ers have been flocking to Egg, there are still plenty of people pre-pared to ignore the rate of interest on a loan. Provident Financial charges customers up to £59 per £100 borrowed, so it is probably not surprising if customers are de-faulting on debts and pushing up provisions. But there is no shortage of customers. As countries in the former Eastern bloc discover the joys of capitalism, they are learning the costs of borrowing. Provident agents have marched into the Czech Republic and Poland.

Oil price fall sees Eidos zaps early loss THE enduring popularity of Lara against £13 million last time. Eidos Lasmo cut back production target

By CARL MORTISHED, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

MASMO has cut back its oil production targets after a large reduction in spending forced on the company by the depressed oil price.

The oil explorer, which yesterday confirmed it was still in merger talks with rival Enterprise Oil, intends to halve its annual drilling budget to £55 million and plans to reduce its development spending in Venezuela from \$380 million (£237 million) to \$200 million.

Joe Darby, chief executive, said that the spending cutback will reduce Lasmo's target oil output for 2001 by up to 30,000 barrels per day from a current forecast of 250,000 bpd. At the same time the company has taken a £360 million writedown against the value of its oil producing assets, mainly in the North Sea and Indonesia.

lion profit in 1997 was trans before the asset write-down.

Shrinking budgets are part of a strategy to make sure the group is cash neutral after a year in which Lasmo's £48 milformed into an equivalent loss. Mr Darby said: "We are tar-

geting to be profitable in 1999 at a Brent price of above \$12 per barrel, \$3 lower than our 1998 breakeven price." For every dollar move in the oil price, Lasmo experiences a \$20 million gain or loss to its cashflow.

Lasmo's chief executive would not comment on the progress of the Enterprise talks but said that be expected them to reach a conclusion next month. He said that other options were being consid-



ered: "We are looking at alliances with other companies." He indicated that alliances might be strategic tie-ups in a particular region rather than a full merger. Oil companies are

queueing up to gain access to the low-cost onshore oilfields in Opec countries and Lasmo is looking at partnerships that might improve access to the Middle East, Lasmo's asset write-downs

comprise a £165 million hit to Il North Sea fields and a £111 million write-off at Sanga Sanga, Lasmo's Indonesian lique-fied natural gas project, where the gas contract is linked to the A further £84 million has

been written off Dacion, the Venezuela heavy oil investment. Paul Murray, finance di-rector, said that reduced spending would not affect the company's production target as the field is producing more oil and less water than anticipated. . dividend at 2.3p per share.

City Diary, page 35

SB to consider share buyback

SMITHKLINE BEECHAM, which is set to receive more than £1 billion from its recently announced disposals, is to seek shareholder approval to buy back up to 10 per cent of its shares.

The proceeds from selling Diversified Pharmaceutical Services and Clinical Laboratories, two US busines will help to clear the £1.45 billion of debt with which the pharmaceuticals group end-

SB said it was not committed to buying back its shares but it wanted to have as much flexibility as possible. A spokesman said: "Our priority is to invest in the business.

SB to opt for a buyback — par-ticularly since pharmaceutical companies are under continu-

But if it is deemed appropri-

Most share buybacks are made by poorly rated companies and by those such as banks that have accumulated

new drug development.

ate, then the shares will be

With its shares trading at almost 45 times last year's earnings, it would be unusual for al pressure to invest more in

The company will seek the shareholder authority at its an-

Liffe votes for share

through by members unani-The move, cleared at an ex-

Brian Williamson, the Liffe chairman said: "This is a vital step towards becoming a commercial, customer-driven busi-

shareholders. "In future, the exchange will seek to achieve profits and as appropriate pay dividends as

shake-up

LIFFE, the London futures and options exchange, took its first steps towards a stock market flotation when plans to reorganise the share structure of the organisation were voted

traordinary meeting yester-day, splits shareholdings from the right to trade on Liffe.

ness that delivers value to

Barclays Bank PLC

With effective from 1st March 1999 lending interest rates have been decreased as follows:

	New Rate	Old Rate
Barclays Executive Loan under £15,000	12.75% р.з.	13.25% p.a.
Over £15,000	12.25% p.e.	13.25% p.a.

Barcleys Bank PLC. Reg. No. 1026167 Registered Office: 54 Lombard Street, Lo

Arjo feels the pinch

THE enduring popularity of Lara against £13 million last time. Eidos Croft, heroine of *Tomb Raider* computer games, has helped Eidos to achieve including *Final Fantasy IV*. another set of record Christmas trading profits. The computer games company said it made a profit of £51.3 mil-lion (£31.3 million) in 1998's last quarter.— mainly from Tomb Raider III.

This offset earlier losses to leave nine-month profits at £32.4 million,

which it has a 15 per cent stake. Earnings per share in the nine months to December 31, were 112.3p (50.2p). The shares fell 20p to E14.37½p.

However, it took a £3 million hit to cover a decline in shares in ASA, a Norwegian optical cable company in

MARGIN pressure in the paper and packaging industry has restricted Arjo Wiggins Appleton to a pre-tax profit of £211 million in 1998, down 2.2 per cent (Paul Armstrong writes).

Ken Minton, the chairman, said he did not expect Arjo's markets to improve, although the company's recent

restructure was likely to bring benefits

later in the year. A final dividend of

5.4p was declared, which takes the year's payout to 8.5p, compared with

8p last year.

Arjo has been split into three separate divisions, and the board is considering various options, including a sale

or a flotation. The recent restructure also saw the departure of Philippe Beylier, the company's chief executive.



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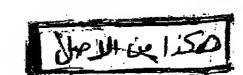
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MICHAEL CLARK

Dixons surges on talk of German Net link-up

SHARES of Dixons, the high street retailer, surged to yet another new high with a rise of 22½p at Ell.85½. The price has come up from the 79712p level,

so far, this year. Dealers say the company is milking its new "Internet la-bel" for all it is worth. The group's own Internet service provider. Freeserve, has now attracted more than one million subscribers and could provide a big boost to profits in

years to come. Claims that Freeserve is about to link up with a similar service offered by Bertelsmann, the German publisher.

was behind yesterday's rise.
It certainly excited the likes of Credit Suisse First Boston. the broker, which rates the shares a "buy" and has raised its target price from Ell to El3.

Rival broker Charterhouse Tilney takes a more cautious view of events after a meeting with the company. It believes the shares are up with events and says Dixons

may be sacrificing margins in order to boost sales. This may lead to a profits downgrading. Overnight losses on Wall Street and another unconvincing start to trading for the Dow Jones industrial average yesterday brought London's

dering halt. The FTSE 100 index closed 101.1 down at 6,206.5 as a total of 1.14 billion shares changed hands. By contrast, the FTSE 250 index closed 5.9 up at 5,226.1.

record-breaking run in a shud-

Despite the setback for shares, there was linle selling pressure reported and brokers are confident that sheer weight of money will continue to drive prices higher in the short term.

A combination of profit taking and general absence of support left prices closing just above their worst levels of the day.

Loss-making Orange, headed by Hans Snook, dived 514p to 907p after Hutchison Whampoa reduced its stake in the mobile telephone company below 50 per cent. Almost 5 per cent of Britain's third-biggest mobile phone operator changed hands as Goldman Sachs, the US securities house, placed 50 million shares at 8Slp. A total of 72.86 million shares had changed hands by the close. The sale raised £425 million for Hurchison.

British Aerospace, which continues to hold a small stake in Orange, fell Zlp to 420p af-

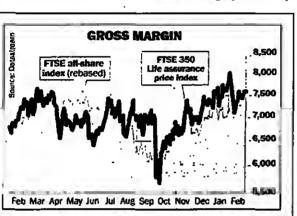


Hans Snook saw Orange shares fall 514p after Hutchison Whampoa reduced its stake in the mobile-phone operator

Elsewhere among the leaders, Compass Group extended Wednesday's gains with a rise of 2614p at 76912p on the back of some encouraging words to shareholders at the annual meeting. BTR Siebe was also a firm marker, adding 10p at 265%p as the pound continued to lose ground against the dollar.

Brokers found little to cheer about in this week's results

from Cadbary Schweppes, which dipped back below the EIO level to finish 27/ep lower at 9725:p. There was disappointment about the group's refusal to conduct a share buyback and concern about a slow start to trading in the current year. Deutsche Bank has cut its racing for the shares from "neutral" to "underperform". It has set a target price of 900p.



THE move by Legal & General chief David Prosser to sacrifice margin in order to build up market share, sent a shudder through the rest of the life assurers. Clearly there is some concern that the rest of the sector will be forced to follow suit.

Legal & General finished nursing a loss of 109½p at 798p, while Norwich Union. reporting next week. ended 24%p down at 448%p. Others to give up ground included Prudential. down 341-p to 8541-p. United Assurance 16!:p to 543!:p, after results, and Sun Life & Provincial, 16thp to 483thp. But Roman Cizdyn at Merrill Lynch, the broker, reckons market fears have been overdone. Worries

pean insurers - will limit

the downside, he adds.

"Everyone knows that Prosser has no qualms about balancing volume against margin in order to grab market share." Prices across the sector may fall further but bid talk centring on acquisitive banks or domestic or Euro-

COMMODITIES

possibility of averting damaging industrial action with rise of 5p at 67/ap. The Unio of Democrace Mineworker has said it will recommend revised offer worth 3.1 per cer

to its members.

Regent Inns, which is dis cussing a nil-premium merge with SFI Group, shed 4p 1824p as hopes of a bid from Bass evaporated. The compan is now expected to proceed wit the SFI merger and final de-tails could be announced next for month. SFI eased 1p to 16812p. while Bass stood out with a rise of 25p at 8371/2p as Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker, recommended the shares.

AIM-listed Methyens was unmoved at 314p as the wife of chairman Andrew Swanston picked up 10.000 shares at 33p. it takes his family's holding to 2.62 million, or 17.89 per cent. Quality Software was one

of the day's best performers, climbing 55½p to 450½ after confirmation that the group will be launching two new intranet products next week.

A downbeat trading state-ment took its toll of Card Clear, down 3p at 36p. The company said it was conducting a review of strategy, organisa-oon structure and marketing.

Electronic Boutique fell 4p to 7912p as brokers continued to ponder the group's pro-posed acquisition of Game. 2p better at 142t-p. City speculators say this may not be the end of the story as far as Electronic Boutique is concerned.

GILT-EDGED: Further losses in US treasury bonds overnight and a stronger than expected CBI industrial trends survey sent bond prices in London lower. Losses at the longer end stretched to almost £2. Dealers reported little real

weight of selling, but a general absence of support. In the futures pit, the March series of the long gill finished El.12 down at El16.55, after briefly touching £116.25. But trading conditions generally proved thin with just 25,000 contracts completed. Among convencion

al stocks, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 fell £1.85 to £147.18, while

in shorts Treasury 7 per cent 2002 shed 45p at £106.79. □ NEW YORK: Shares were sharply lower in morning trade on fears of an imminent rise in long-term interest rates. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 126.36 at 9.273.31.

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	Hong Kong: 9658.07 (-19.50)
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Jupiter Enhanced Inc

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ı	Church		+ 29	+ 9.8 + 9.6
ı	Medera.		+ 9	+ 9.2
ı	Devio		+ 14	+ 8.5
ı	Provident	962	+ 62	+ 6.8
ı	Glymed	t89	+ 11	+ 6,1
ı	Ricardo Group		+ 1312	+ 5.8
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ı	Fram! Dual Co		+ 812	+ 4.9
ı	Admiral	1240		+ 4.4
ı	Furi Bank Y	2461>	+ 10	+ 4.2
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LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Time to rein in COLT COLT TELECOM represents one of Tempus' least successful calls. Twice last year, first when the shares were at 442p, and again when the shares were at 662p this column passed negative judgment on the stock.

son concedes, are also unlike-

But Rio is well placed to cap-

italise on a commodity price

recovery. It boasts some of the

lowest-cost mining projects in

the world and stands to bene-

ly to improve before 2000.

There are reasons why COLT has defied the Tempus premonitions of doom and, to a large extent, logic. Telecoms markets are seeing explosive growth thanks to a high-octane mixture of liberalisation and heavy investment in the Internet. COLT is also capitalising on the growth. Annual results posted yesterday showed sales growth of 164 per cent, a supercharged performance that seems to vindicate

Thanks to the superior quality of its new build telecoms networks (which carry data more cost-effectively than the old-fashioned networks still used by former state-owned op-

ers, but still lucrative for COLT. Moreover, COLT has surprisingly few competitors. It is aiready in 12 cities across Europe and plans to be in 26 by the end of 2000. Finally, COLT's management has performed soundly, consistently churning out results on-target with ex-

pectations, as they did yesterday.

But even with a 10 per cent fall yesterday COLT's market value is still 30 times its just reported annual sales of £215 million. It may be a brilliant company but competition will increase. Besides, stock shortgage has exaggerated the share price movements.

portunistic acquisitions. Management is also sound.

If ever there was a time to

act on the adage "buy in

is it. The short-term outlook is

far from rosy, and the wait for

gloom and sell in boom", this

Tempus has a red face on this one, but now is not the time to change tack. Sell.

most certainly be lower than backs. Rio's strong balance 1998. Commodity prices, Wil-sheet means it could make op-

Rio Tinto

RIO TINTO'S share price, like that of just about every mining stock, has seen little of the bull market enthusiasm fuelling price rises in so many other sectors. At root of Rio's unpopularity is the par-lous state of mineral prices: for coal, iron ore and copper.

The poor look of the last three years' performance, shown in the graph, is exaggerated by the sharp fall of late 1997. Rio shares lost touch on relative grounds when several industrial battles on the company's Australian coalfields added to its commodity price woes. Troubles were compounded by the Asian crisis and growing awareness that excess capacity

plagued many of its markets. Just when it seemed things could not get any worse. Rio chairman Robert Wilson gave warning yesterday that this year's profit would al-

fit in the long term if a pro-longed slump forces other companies into production cut-be had. Put Rio on the buy list. **RIO TAINTED**

Legal & General YESTERDAY'S thumping

109%p — or 12 per cent — fall in the price of Legal & Gener-al shares was overdue. The stock has had a tremendous run: up to Wednesday night the shares outperformed the UK average by 15 per cent over one year, and by nearly 200 per cent over five years. But measured in relation to earnings per share multiples and dividend yields the stock was also well in advance of the market as a whole and its

insurance peer group. Investors have been impressed by L&G's "pile it high and sell it cheap" approach to insurance and investment. It will be a lasting tribute to David Prosser, the chief executive, that he recognised much earlier than many of his insurance company rivals that there was a huge opportunity to sell lowcost product in big volume. He anticipated the new Labour enthusiasm for cheap,

DOLLAR RATES

1 5015-1.5025 6.7328-6.7348 1.1037-1.1041 7.7480-7.7490 120.01-120.06

3.7998-3.8002 7.8725-7.8825 1.7248-1.7258 8.1210-8.1310 1.4384-1.4389

standardised products for the masses. The Government may be loath to admit it, given the way it picked out L&G for a pension mis-sell-ing handbagging, but this firm is in prime position to deliver exactly what new La-bour wants. In addition, there remains room for further exciting growth from this strategy.

But the ruthless pursuit of

market share is beginning to worry. Low cost means narrow margins and, now the competition is cottoning on, compensations from volume gains are not as easy to find. Coupled with the fact that L&G is still overpriced, the best course of action is to con-

tinue selling.

Hanson HANSON has enjoyed stock market support in recent months partly because the company is seen as being a prime beneficiary of a large road-building programme in son, the best of this is still to come, and stretches out at least until the year 2005. In the meantime Hanson is demonstrating that it can deliver margin improvements by keeping a firm hand on divisional pricing strategies and by cutting costs.

Sentiment is also helped because the cost of a major environmental dean up in the States appears to be covered. Those costs relate to problems created well before the current management took over.

Short term, Hanson's prospects seem assured. What is more troubling is whether new Hanson can thrive withfrom the US. In addition, it is difficult to believe that aggregates, thanks to planning restrictions, really do bave scarcity value as Hanson says they do. If it fails out of the FTSE 100, the shares would be hit hard, too. But hold for now.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE

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t has been tempting for a Govern-ment that has long since ditched its commitment to workers' rights to reinvent itself as the consumer's champion. In recent months, supermarkets and carmakers have found themselves under investigation for alleged overpricing pol-icies, while the pension companies have faced an almost ceaseless round of nam-

raceo an amost ceaseless round of naming and shaming since the last election.
Yet for all the consumer-friendly rhetoric, there is little sign that the Government adoption of the harassed shopper is anything more than pragmatic polities. The targets have so far been highly selective, providing little evidence of the development of a process of the development of a process of the development of a process of the development. development of a more coherent approach to consumer issues. The Government often appears caught between using tough consumerist language and its desire to maintain a cosy relationship with big business. The feeling is that the supermarkets, in particular, may well ul-timately receive kid-glove treatment because the Government needs the good-will of retailers to help to deliver other vital parts of its agenda.

The consumer has long received a sur-prisingly raw deal from Government.

Shopping for a true champion

The heart of the problem is that the ma-chinery for consumer protection is complex, cumbersome and sometimes contradictory. The two principal protagonists of consumer affairs—the Department of Trade and Industry and the Office of Fair Trading—lump the issue together with their more high-profile competition work. However, as Mark Boleat, director-general of the Association of British Insurers, notes in a paper written for the Social Market Foundation, competition and consumer protection are not altogether compatible bed-fellows. While some issues such as stemming monopolist be-haviour may have an obvious overlap,

do with competition mechanisms. To further confuse matters a myriad of other quasi-governmental organisations also have responsibility for consumers. The government-funded but au-tonomous National Consumers Council

consumer affairs, but has only advisory powers. Major regulators - from Oftel to the Financial Services Authority - also have consumer respon-sibilities, while the Cabinet Office has an interest through its Better Regulation unit.

Steering a coherent strategy across such a diverse range of

government machinery would

seem to require committed ministerial leadership. Yet the consumer affairs brief at the the DTI is left to the most junior minister in the department and even then is still bundled with competition. The current incumbent, Dr Kim Howells, has so far adopted a remarka-

ALASDAIR MUFIRAY

bly low profile in contrast to the garrulous reputation of his predecessor, Nigel Griffiths. Dr Howells was once regarded as a left-wing firebrand, a former Communist Party mem-ber and National Union of Mineworkers activist who organised the famous 1968 Horn-sea College sit-in. However, in recent years be has completed a remarkable transformation

into an ultra Blair loyalist, even describing himself as "probably the most right-wing member of the Labour Party. Not surprisingly independent consumer organisations perceive Dr How-ells as too much of a "safe pair of hands" to push their agenda forward.

The situation is little better at the Office of Fair Trading. The OFT does at least have a director solely concerned with consumer affairs, long-standing OFT employee Caroline Banks. Howev-er, the ultimate powers remain in the hands of John Bridgeman, Director-Gen-eral, who simultaneously wears the main competition hat. The guidelines the OFT follows for taking action on consumer is-sues also leave much to be desired. Al-though the OFT has commissioned a

more thorough analysis from London Economics, the independent consultan-cy, its current guidelines remain vague and seem based as much on ease of investigation and its ability to take immediate action as the merits of individual cases. There is little hope that leadership can come from elsewhere in the consumer affairs sector. The NCC does a worthy job at raising a number of issues but its

chairman, David Hatch, a former BBC

er government business

radio controller and one-time acting partner of John Cleese, is only a two-day-a-week figurehead. The NCC's preferred solution is for the creation of a dedicated consumer affairs ministry with the man-date to champion consumer issues across Government. However, this approach was unsuccessfully tried by a Labour Government in the 1970s with the creation of a Minister for Prices and Consumer Protection. The danger is that such a powerful figure could quickly prove too much of an obstruction to oth-

A far more practical solution would be to dedicate a mid-ranking DTI minister to consumer affairs. This would allow the creation of a coherent strategy but ensure that the issue of consumer protec-tion continues to be viewed in the wider regulatory and competitiveness context. There are some signs that the Government is beginning to move in this direc-tion with Dr Howells promising a White Paper on Consumer Strategy later in the spring. Rather than picking off some soft business targets, Dr Howells should take the opportunity to create an effec-

Parallel traders choose to play role of consumers' champion

Saced Shah examines the

attack of the

grey market

traders on the designer brands

apless UK consumers have got used odds for their favourite designer goods those Ray Ban sunglasses, a Tommy Hilfiger T-shirt, Levi jeans, Calvin Klein under-

For those who can't resist Chanel No 5 but find their wallet is not up to their tastes. there is suddenly hope. The European Commission has started to consider a change to the 1988 European Trademark Directive that many blame for the high price of branded

Brand owners are protected by the Directive, which allows them to control the supply of their products from outside. the EU - sourcing from unanthorised suppliers is an infringement of their trademark under the law. This keeps their price at a premium, by recicting supply to those who will sell the product in "appropriate" surrounding and at a suitably impressive price.

Europe's fine perfumeries say that people would rather pay £40 for a bottle of designer eau de toilette in Harrods than £25 in, say, Asda.

MALL STREET

That was supported by a judgment last year from the European Court of Justice the so-called Silhouette case prohibiting the sale of Silhouette sunglasses that were sourced from Bulgaria without the authorisation of the

Companies supply products at prices that vary from country to country. It is a truism that what you costs \$10 in the US, will cost you £10 here.

A report published today by the National Economic Research Associates (Nera), an conomic consultancy, found that almost all goods were cheaper in the US than Europe, by about 40 to 50 per cent. .

John Rhys, one of the authors of the Nera report, says that firms know they can get away with it. "You can expect firms to charge the prices that consumers are willing to pay,"

Parallel — or "grey" — imports are goods obtained through unofficial distribution channels. They should not be goods. Parallel traders either



American designer Tommy Hilliger, whose brand is one of the most popular targets of parallel traders in the UK

take advantage of price differ-entials in other countries or decide not to charge such a big

margin on the goods. Tesco says its grey market goods are often sourced at prices similar to official suppliers; it is just that they have chosen to charge a smaller mark-up on each item. Designers do not

The supermarket chain is to go to the High Court later this vear after Levi Strauss took exception to its sale of Levi 501 icans for £30. The icans sell for about £50 in most outlets. This week Tesco has put on sale £1 million worth of Ralph Lauren trousers and jackets at knockdown prices.
Similarly, independent mo-

tor cycle distributors will find themselves in the dock in November, after Honda took action against cut-price bikes that had been obtained unofficially. The assault on the motorcycle market by grey im-porters has already brought their prices down by some 30

per cent on some models. Gary Lux, spokesman for the Parallel Traders Association, says, "My members risk being sued every day by supplying cheaper products."
Goods manufactured under

licence are the ones most susceptible to parallel traders, as brand owners only have limit-ed control and manufacturers can quite easily slip some excess production on to the grey

A study by the Government of New Zealand found that in 1997, the grey market in the UK was worth 0.2 per cent of GNP or £1.63 billion. There is a head of steam now building up for a change in the law on

ministers met to discuss the Nera report, which it commissioned. Mario Monti, the EU Commissioner for the Single Market, has recently positioned himself for a change in the law. He has voiced his anger at the way companies use a law meant to protect their trademarks to stille competition and boost their prices.

> n Britain Kim Howells, the Consumer Affairs Minister, has signalled his support for parallel traders. The influential House of Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee has launched an inquiry into whether the European Trademark Directive needs to be re-

It follows their investigation into car pricing. The car findings so outraged MPs that they said that prison sentences . Yesterday, European trade should be considered for car manufacturers and dealers who systematically over-Their report concharge. demned the 35 per cent premium that British buyers face compared with most consum-

ers on the Continent. The Department of Transport is known to be considering lifting some of the UK-spe-cific restrictions on parallel import of cars.

Richard Moore, spokesman for the British Independent Motor Trade Association, says: "The grey market is the most important consumer issue for many years. The UK in particular is seen as a honeypot by many companies. Politicians obviously want to be seen on the side of the consumer, especially the Labour Party



Levi's famous brand means the jeans sell at a premium price

who are very consumer-friendly, and this is an issue where they can prove their consumer

credentials." The Nera report sees price falls possible by 20 to 40 per cent on some premium producis, as a result of allowing parallel imports, though its says the macroeconomic impact on prices would be small. some 1 to 2 per cent, because most products are not well known brands.

There is also a public support for a change in the law. A MORI poll last September found that 79 per cent believe the Government should press for a change in the European law, following the experiences of supermarkets that try to sell designer goods at a discount.

At the moment, a designer can stipulate that its products cannot be sold in outlets where the customers first have to walk past the fruit and veg shelves. These selective distribution agreements are not scrutinised too closely in Europe if a firm has a small market share, as designers inevitably do.

One of the findings of the Nera report was that there are large price differentials within the EU. Doing away with the Trademark Directive would make no difference here, as companies aiready cannot prevent free sourcing within the EU but price differences remain inside the EU.

British consumers know that they can buy cheese, wine and even washing powder considerably cheaper in French bypermarkets. And we all

are just across the Channel. Phil Evans, senior policy re-searcher at the Consumers' Association, says that the attack on the Trademark Directive must be combined with an assault on selective distribution agreements within the EU. To-

gether, he says, they have the effect of "rigging the market". He says, "At the moment, consumers know it's not worth shopping around. There has come to be an air of normality about paying, for instance, £15 for a CD and people often do not question it. If high-price brands dropped their prices, it would have a knock-on effect right through the chain to cheaper goods."

What is needed, therefore, is a more rigorous application of European competition law, as well as allowing competition from parallel importers, in order to bring prices down, not only for designer products but for goods overall.

A change in the European trademark law is bound to be a slow process, as greedy companies lobby frantically against it. It is also unclear whether a new regime would allow complete freedom of sourcing or restrict it to countries with which the EU makes reciprocal agreements. It is also possible that some sectors, such as recorded music and pharmaceuticals, will get exemptions for any lib-

he advent of the euro is bound to make some of those price differentials so transparent as to be unsustainable for those countries that have adopted the single currency.

The protection of supply chains is also being undermined by the Internet, where individuals can become their own parallel traders, hunting down the cheapest goods all over the world.

Brand owners defend their practices by saying that they need to protect their brand image and that consumers value that prestige. There has cleargot be some protection for firms to invest in research and marketing. However, many of the arguments are less than convincing. They say that af-ter-sales service suffers if you go to a parallel importer, but how much after-sales service do you need for perfume or a

Any sector that claims ex-emptions should be made in justify in detail why they are a special case. If European prices came down to those Americans are used to paying, everyone would feel the difference.

A big question, though must hang over the psychology of consumers. Would they still want that baggy Tommy Hilfiger top if it was on sale in Kwik Save for a fiver?

Jean genie

KEITH SKEOCH, one of our most visible City pundits, is leaving James Capel and HSBC, his borne for all his working life, to become chief investment officer at one of the clients, Standard Life.

This is the last of a number of departures from the HSBC economics team even if, as Skeoch tells me, this split is amicable and he gave up pure eco-nomics to be managing director of international equities a

The departures follow the decision to merge HSBC's economics team with James Capel's, from which Skeoch came, and they have tended to be on the HSBC side. As an economist, he denies any statistical significance. "In any merger there's a degree of fallout, and a sense of exclusion as well."

Incidentally, Keith, a colleague has a memory of you and Marie Helvin in the bath on TV a decade or so back. "It wasn't on TV and it wasn't Marie Helvin." Some other economist, then. But Skeoch admits to a fashion spread for jeans, with Debbie Moore of Pineapple Dance Studios. 'We were fully clothed. I was the obligatory City person."

Skeoch: fashion victim

BEING the subject of so many takeover rumours can have its consolations, as Joe Darby, chief executive of Lasmo, is finding. Among them is the fun of deflating the oversized egos of investment bankers.

Darby says a different team arrives almost daily with proposals for a merger.

Ever the gentleman, he lets them in and offers coffee. But his patience runs out when they pull out the inevitable huge presentation document.

"I tell them to put it away — there's nothing in the book I don't know already. Then i ask them to name the other company they have in mind. Eventually they say, for exam-ple, Norsk Hydro. I tell them we've looked at it. They look terribly disappointed."

Bill stickers

THE Labour rebels trying to block the Bill to reform the City's electoral franchise say they have received encouraging hints from the Corpora-



tion of London that parts may be amended.

On Wednesday night the Bill completed its second reading despite opposition from 91 MPs. Notably, the reading saw the Government come off the fence for the first time — the private Bill is being brought by the Corporation and all involved have observed the polite fiction that it is non-political.

Chris Haines, chairman of the City branch of the Labour Party, which is fighting the reforms, says there have been indications from the Corporation that it may look favourably on amendments at the committee stage, in particular to require voters nominated by the

big institutions to have closer links to the City. The Corporation admits that it is considering some changes. But the rebels' wish to scrap rateable value as a measure of how many votes a firm gets in favour of the size of the payroll looks a non-starter. .

THE latest two hirings to Commerzbank Global Equities risk analysis team are Reda Seridi and Asif Khan. The team produces complex models analysing derivatives risk. and the two have, respectively, a BEng in aeronautical engineering and a doctorate in plasma physics. Such qualifications are not unknown in derivatives; but this particular combination seems to justify the tag "rocket scientists".

Verse again

SEVERAL weeks ago 1 wrote of John Mole, the City's new poet in residence, and quoted some of his more impenetrable lines. The poem he read at the launch of Poet in the City last night was more accessible.

"The Trick" is about a straphanging commuter in a packed carriage who dreams of being in Paris with the girl "who gently leant against you, opening her book". I and a colleague, a fellow forty-something, agree that it is tenderly

A member of the younger generation wrinkles her nose. "It's a bit pervy." Romance, like youth, is wasted on the young.

> MARTIN WALLER city.diary@the-times.co.uk

Time for a healthy private and public partnership

From Mr Michael A. Hall

Sir. With reference to your fascinating series "Prescrip-tions for the NHS", it is clear that the time has come for a national debate on the future funding of Britain's health

My own experience in both the public and private sector forms the basis for my belief that there is a real need for partnership and co-operation between public and private healthcare sectors to make the best use of available resources in the two sectors and to deliver quality healthcare to the nation.

There is already evidence of co-operation working in other markets, such as pensions and to a certain extent welfare benefits, which has received gov-

ernment support. It is disappointing that to date no progress has been made in the more politically sensitive area The only way to put an end

to the deterioration of our health service is for the Government to hold a national de-bate to address the issues facing the NHS. The alternative is to allow waiting lists to increase and for more patients to find themselves waiting on trolleys in NHS corridors while beds lie empty in pri-

Opportunities for public and private sectors to work toether must be explored. One example could be the division between non-urgent and urgent treatment.

The private sector is particularly efficient in providing

treatment for non-urgent conditions which are normally short stay procedures and where turnover is high.

Conversely, these treatments are a drain on the time and resources of the NHS and restrict capacity to concentrate on more life-threatening conditions, in the treatment of which the NHS has an enviable reputation. Why not explore harnessing private versus pubbic strengths to provide more cost-effective

Prime Health's own research has shown that the British public feel that there should be co-operation be-tween public and private healthcare sectors. Sixty-two per cent of those surveyed believe a working partnership

tween the two sectors, and more than half feel that the NHS will be unable to cope without the help of the independent sector.

The NHS, the institution which we all inevitably trust with our lives, cannot continue to kurch from crisis to crisis. It is time for a proper debate on the future of healthcare in this country and the private sector is ready and willing to play its part in this debate.

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL A. HALL, Managing Director, Prime Health Limited, Wey House, Famham Road. Guildford. Surrey.

The Index-Tracking PEP

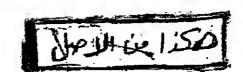
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Ricardo confident of growth

Ricardo Group, the automotive engineering consultan-cy. expects to maintain steady growth in the sec-ond half after reporting a 17 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £4.5 million for the six months to December 31.

Earnings rose 24 per cent to 6.7p a share and the interim dividend rises to 2.3p (2.2p). The shares rose llp to a record 241p.

The company said it had seen continuing growth in its UK businesses, while US losses were reduced. Rodney Westhead, chief executive, said it was looking to further develop in Germany.

County sells hotels Regal Hotel Group will today announce that its Coun-ty Hotels joint venture has sold two non-core hotels for £4 million. The 66-room County Hotel in Southampton and 50-room County Hotel in Ware, Hertfordshire, have been bought by MSI, an independent botel group.

Stakis opening

Stakis, the hotel and gaming group that has accepted a £1.5 billion takeover from Ladbroke, yesterday opened what is claimed to be the UK's biggest casino outside London. The Stakis Westgate Casino in Leeds has 19 gaming tables.

New rates of interest.

Rates effective; 1st March 1999.

Bradford & Bingley

US construction helps Hanson beat forecasts

By Robert Cole CITY CORRESPONDENT

A BIG uplift from North American operations has helped Hanson, the aggregates supplier, to report better than expected underlying annual profits. Hanson, the remnant of the group of the same name that

was split into four parts two years ago, made pre-tax profits, before exceptional items, of £265 million in the 12 months to 31 December, up 18 per cent on 1997. Strong demand from the still healthy US economy fuelled the advance, but the company has also improved

Andrew Dougal, chief executive, said: "Construction activity has continued at a high level throughout our US markets, assisted by mild weather in the fourth quarter in the Midwest and North East. The outlook for building materials remains good."

Saying that prospects over-all are positive for 1999, he gave warning that the outlook for UK volumes is flat.

Trading profits from Han-son's North American operations, which are predominantly in aggregates, rose 45 per cent to £128 million. Operating profits from the European aggregates business rose 13 per cent. Hanson Bricks, another European business, saw prof-

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Jonathan Nicholls, left, Hanson's finance director, and Andrew Dougal, chief executive

presence in regional markets."

Hanson has net cash of £38

its slip back from £37.8 million to £36 million.

While underlying profits of Hanson improved, a slew of exceptional items confused the overall pre-tax profits picture. Costs had an effect in 1998, but big credits flattered the compa-rable numbers. The net effect was headline pre-tax profits slumping from E609 million to

Hanson spent about £190

million of trading cashflow in the year. It expects to repeat million on acquisitions in 1998. Mr Dougal suggested that similar sums would be that performance this year. spent in the current year. He said that the group's prefer-

Earnings per share before exceptional items rose from 29p to 34.7p, although head-line earnings fell from 88.1p to ence was to make a number of smaller purchases rather than opt for one large deal. He said: "The priority for acquisitions 54.5p. Hanson is paying a fi-nal dividend of 8.75p, against 8p last time, making a total of is to develop the company's 12.75p, up 6.25 per cent.

Tempus, page 34

Quadrant in a quandary over losses

THREE projects that formed the basis of the flotation of Quadrant Healthcare a year ago have all run into problems (Paul Durman writes).

It has shelved investment to make a better version of Zovirax, Glaxo Wellcome's herpes treatment, and is struggling to find an effective transplant rejection drug. Pall Corporation, of the US, has taken over the human trials of Quadrant's blood platelets product. The acquisition of Andaris

increased Quadrant's annual pre-tax loss to £5.3 million from £2.9 million. Revenues research costs rose by half to £4.9 million. Shares fell 2p to 86½p, against 130p at flotation.

Bad-debt rise fails to knock Provident **Financial**

By CAROLINE MERRELL BANKING CORRESPONDENT

PROVIDENT Financial, the bank that specialises in offering high-interest loans to lowincome bouseholds, reported a 6 per cent increase in its pretax profits to £145.9 million, despite a rise in bad debts.

Provisions rose by II per cent to £74 million. The company expects bad debts to continue to rise this year. Charges also include £2 million for year 2000 costs.

Profits were also flattened by a £9.1 million interest charge stemming from the re-turn of £127 million of capital to shareholders over the past two years.

Howard Bell, chief executive, blamed the rise in bad debts on an increase in new recruits among its agents. He said: "We have been growing the business over the last four years, and increasing the number of agents, some of whom are inexperienced."

The home-credit company charges its mainly female cus-tomers £59 per £100 borrowed. This compares with a sum of £9 per £100, which is charged by a typical high street bank. The company uses a team of nearly 11,000 agents to collect premiums av-eraging £14 per week. Mr Bell defended the high

rates charged by Provident Fi-nancial, claiming it is one of the few financial companies prepared to do business with residents on council estates. The money borrowed tends to be spent locally and many of the agents employed are from the local community," he

The company also revealed expansion in the former Eastern bloc countries of the Czech Republic and Poland. In Poland, for example, Provident Financial now has 316 agents, 12,900 customers and four offices, while in the Czech Republic it operates 224 agents from four offices and has 7,200 customers.

The final dividend is set at 13.6p per share, bringing the total to 22.5p for the year — an increase of 15.4 per cent.

The shares rose 62p to 962p yesterday.

Small firms' legal burden to be eased

Christine Buckley on

company law reform

MALLER companies are to be freed from many legal requirements under plans to over-

haul company law.

They are likely to get a reduced set of regulations and to be excused from abiding by general company law. The moves, set out yesterday in the first report from the Government's review of com-pany law, aim to improve competitiveness by encouraging the start-up and growth of small businesses.

At the same time, larger businesses may face more pressure to act in the wider

interests of employees and the environment Although company law already calls on businesses to consider implications of their actions, there is criticism that they do not heed such directions, favouring instead the immediate interests,

of shareholders.

Stephen Byers. Byers law review Trade and Industry Secretary, said: "Our system of company law has developed around the requirements of large public compa-nies. Yet, of the 1.32 million companies oo the Compa-

nies House register at the end of 1997-98, only 12,000 were public limited companies and only 2,450 were list-ed on the Stock Exchange." The interests of small and medium-sized businesses must be put first, he said. Proposals to favour smaller companies in changes to company law - which will

not be enacted until 2001 come amid concern about the robustness of the smaller firms' sector. This huge part of the economy is suffering severe investment problems. This month, a report or-dered by the DTI said that up to 800 companies may be forced from equity markets as investors shun them in

favour of global investment and larger companies. This gives the Govern-

ment a dilemma because smaller businesses are at the heart of its drive to boost competitiveness because of their scope for growth. Yesterday's report by the cross-industry steering

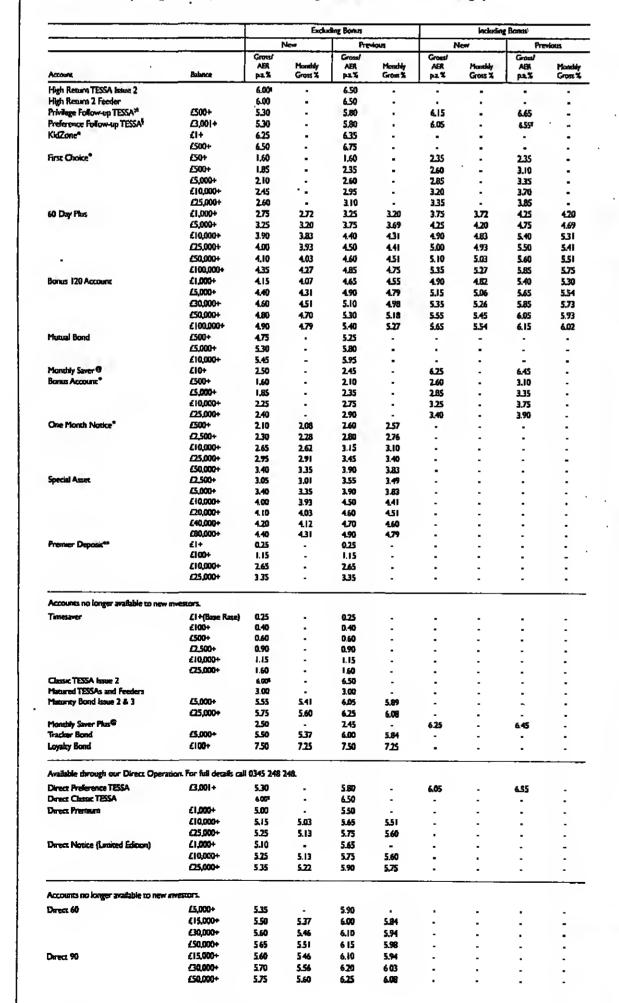
group on company law pro-posed to make it easier to set. up a company and to relax some operating restrictions such as on financing share purchases. It also recommended ending the need go to court for operations such as capital reductions.

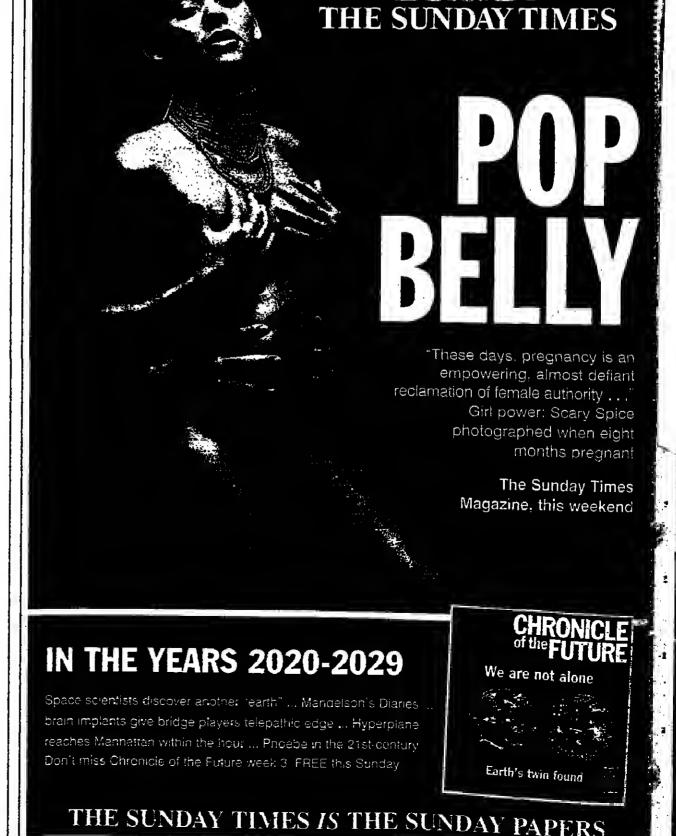
The Federation of Small Business es welcomed the plans. It said: "The UK has some of the easiest laws pertaining to the sole trader, but once a business is incorporated, regulations are a nightmare."

Cutting red tape has risks, though. Combined with plans to relax insolvency law to let

bankrupts re-enter business more easily, the drive for competitiveness could create a rogue's charter. Small business is already peppered with "phoenix companies" created from the ashes of collapsed businesses whose shareholders, creditors and employees have been left with losses. Making it easier to incorporate and to operate is likely to invite more unscrupulous directors to shelter under limited liability.

There is, though, undoubted urgency to update company law - rooted in the Victorian industrial age and added to piecemeal - and to help small businesses to thrive UK company law, last amended in 1985, has in many ways fallen behind change in business. Its lang-uage is cumbersome, its provisions are unwieldy and it lags behind new technology.





THE TIMES FRIDAY FEBRUARY 26 1999 Small fin legal burd to be ease Christine Buckley

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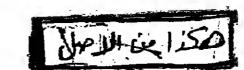
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WARNING: FROM TOBACCO MANUFACTURERS TO H.M. GOVERNMENT.



Rio Tinto restricts fall to 6%

RIO TINTO, the world's biggest mining company, has re-stricted the fall in its 1998 profit to 6 per cent after fighting off the potentially disastrous impact of lower commodity prices.

The Anglo-Australian group revealed vesterday that increased volumes, currency gains and lower costs had helped it to a pre-tax profit of US\$1.95 billion (£1.22 billion).

But Robert Wilson, chairman, gave warning that the bleak outlook for the prices of Rio's products meant shareholders should not expect such a favourable outcome this year. He said it would be almost impossible for Rio to find fresh ways to insulate itself against the impact of weak

world economic growth. "There is no doubt that this year will be very difficult," Mr Wilson said, "Prices are currently below 1998 averages almost without exception.

"We are looking at a fragile world economy which sug-gests there will be rather little economic growth in 1999."

He even took the unusual step of wishing for continued low copper prices, his theory being that this would force many mines to shut and leave the industry better off in the long term. Rio estimates that up to one

third of world copper producnon is running at a loss, making rationalisation inevitable. Copper accounted for 14 per cent of Rio's revenue last year. The division's earnings fell 15 per cent to \$312 million, though this included gold pro-

Earnings from iron ore projects in Australia rose 17 per cent to \$359 million. Industrial minerals earned \$407 million, up 7 per cent. Comalco. the Australian alumin-

duced at the copper mmes.

ium subsidiary, saw a 14 per cent earnings fall to \$131 million. The bottom-line result was \$700 million (\$1.22 billion), after a change in accounting standards forced a \$403 million charge after tax. A final dividend of 35.5 cents was declared, leaving the full-year

payout unchanged at 52 cents.



Getting in sear: Andrew Harrison, chief executive, left and Sir Trevor Ching, chairman of Lex

Strong growth at Lex

LEX SERVICE, the vehicle contract hire group, saw profits rise by 15 per cent in 1998, as it took advantage of the growing trend toward outsourcing. However, growth was slowed by the slump in used car prices in the second half of the year (Paul Armstrong writes).

There were strong performances across the company's operations, which pushed group

pre-tax profits to £73.1 million.

The company's business services division, which is involved in outsourcing, saw profits jump 11.2 per cent to £44.7 million, while the forklift truck business saw profits up by 59 per cent to £12.7 million. This included the first earnings from its French operations.

The vehicle marketing and motoring services division lifted its contribution from £22.8 million to £24.7 million on the

back of a 16 per cent increase in Hyundai registrations. Lex has £63 million cash and is due to receive a further £44 million in April as part of the sale to Halifax of a half share in Lex Vehicle Leasing.

A spokesman declined to comment on reports that Lex and Cinven. the venture capital group, are planning a £400 million bid for the RAC, the moloring organisation.

Vaux to consider extending deadline

BY DOMINIC WALSH

VAUX GROUP will today consider whether 10 extend the four-week exclusivity period granted to a management buyout learn to finalise its offer for the group's two breweries and 350 tenanted pubs.

The MBO team, which is backed by Alchemy Partners. the venture capitalist, has until Monday to sign a deal. Analysts believe the dismissal three weeks ago of two senior directors makes this unlikely.
It is understood that the two

sides have a number of issues to resolve, although price - be-lieved to be close to £70 million - is not thought to be an issue.

The sale process caused a massive boardroom bust-up. Martin Grant, the chief execu-tive and Neal Gossage, the finance director, disagreed with the sale committee's decision to go with the MBO offer.

The two men were sacked after they secretly went to Vaux's biggest shareholders to express their dissatisafction with the decision. The board, whose chairman is Sir Paul Nicholson, has been accused of lack of impartiality as the MBO is led by Frank Nicholson, Sir Paul's younger brother.

BUSINESS ROUNDUR. WRG expands as profit rises 76% WASTE RECYCLING GROUP is to buy 3C Waste, the the county waste business owned by Yorkshire Water, for £11£49 million in a further round of consolidation in the industry. WRG was given an option to buy the business last year when

it merged its operations with Yorkshire Water's waste business, giving Yorkshire Water a 45.9 per cent stake in the new company. The deal will be funded by a seven-for-20 rights issue at 406p a share. David Williams. WRG chairman, said he expected to make more acquisitions and that the 3C purchase would bolster the

company in the consolidation race. WRG announced the deal as it published a 76 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £10.8 miliion. Its earnings per share rose from 10.9p to 14.7p and the final dividend was set at 2.2p (1.9p) with the payment due on May 7.

P&O Stena steady

P&O STENA LINE, the cross-Channel ferry service, said traffic volumes held up well in the pre-Christmas quarter after a strong performance in the summer. On the service's routes - Dover to Calais, the loss-making Newhaven to Dieppe, which closed last month, and Dover to Zeebrugge for freight — P&O Stena claimed 2 38 per cent share of its market for passengers, 32 per cent for tourist vehicles and 46 per cent for freight, since the joint venture became operational last March. For the ten months to the ending 1998, pre-tax profit before restructuring costs was E54.5 million.

Williams pays £75m

WILLIAMS, the security and building products group, has agreed to buy FPD Guardforce, a supplier of security and fire protection systems, for US\$120 million (£75 million). The vendor is First Pacific, a company listed in Hong Kong, Guardforce will operate alongside Williams's existing security prod-ucts businesses, which include the Chubb. Kidde and Yale brands. Guardforce and Chubb are Hong Kong's leading providers and installers of security systems.

Card Clear review

CARD CLEAR, the provider of credit card fraud prevention systems, said yesterday that its new management, which has been at the helm since last summer's boardroom shake-up. was looking at changing the company's strategic direction. The review of the business was announced as the company reported pre-tax profits for 1998 of £2.1 million (£1.9 million). The shares slipped 2½p to 36½p.

Lincat makes progress

LINCAT GROUP, the catering and bar equipment manufacturer, said that despite continuing pressures in export mar-kets, current trading is progressing satisfactorily, with hopes for a gradual improvement in demand. Pre-tax profits for the six months to December 31 were up by nearly 9 per cent at £2.7 million, on sales of £12.5 million, against £12.1 million last time. The interim dividend is raised to 4.5p from 3.8p.

Ashtead acquisition

ASHTEAD, the plant hire company, is acquiring UK Plant for £20.5 million in cash and shares. UK Plant has 41 depots across England, Scotland and Wales, and in 1998 earned £7.1 million pre-tax profits on turnover of £25 million. Ashtead is raising £30 million by way of a share placing to finance the acquisition and to provide additional working car quisition gives Ashtead a total of 273 outlets.

New interest rates for Halifax customers.

The Halifax announces new interest rates for savings and banking customers.

UK rates

Effective from 1st March 1999. Rates payable to Halifax non-resident and non-personal savers are advertised separately.

ACCOUNT		RRENT		RATES FROM 01/03/99	
ALLOUNI	AER %	GROSS p.a. %	AER %	GROSS p.a. %	NET p.a. %
HALIFAX INSTANT SAVER		,, <u>. E 25,77,</u>			
£500+-	5.25	5.25	4.75	4,75	3.80
£50+ .	1.00	1.00	1.00	. 1.00	0.80
HALIFAX PREMIUM SAVINGS DIRECT					
£100,000+	6.25	6.25	5.75	5.75	4.60
£40,000+ £20,000+	6.10 5.90	6.10 5.90	5.60 5.40	5.60	4.48 . 4.32
£10.000+	5.80	5.90 5.80	5.30	5.40 5.30	4.32
Monthly Income Option	3.00	•		W.L.A.	
+000,00013	6.25	6.08	5.75	5.60	4.48
£40,000+	6.10	5. 9 4	5.60	5.46	4.37
£20,000+	5.90	5.75	5.40	5.27	4.22
£10,000+	5.80	5.65	5.30	5.18	4.14
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£100,000+ £50,000+	5.75 5.35	5.75 5.35	5.20 4.80	5.20 4.80	4.16
£25,000+	5.00	5.00	4.45	4.45	3.84 3.56
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£5,000+	4,05	4.05	3.55	3.55	2.84
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£50.000+	5.35	5.22	4.80 4.45	4.70	3.76
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£50,000+	4.00	4.00	3.36	3.35	2.68
£25.000+	3.90	3.90	3.35	3.35	2.68
£10,000+	3.70	3.70	3.15	3.15	2.52
£5.000+	3.50	3.50	2.95	2.95	2.36
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Glynwed realises £145m disposal BY MARTIN BARROW

GLYNWED International, the engineering company, is raising £145 million through the sale of the largest part of its metals processing activities to Tyco International

The business being sold comprise Glynwed's cold roll-ing, steel tube and specialist engineering businesses. In 1997 these businesses earned operating profits of £23.3 million on sales of £195.9 million.

The disposal does not include the division's integrated hot rolling, bright bar and engi-neering steel distribution businesses, which are subject to separate disposal discussions. The sale represents the lating the past two years the group has completed 15 disposals, generating more than £150 million in cash, and made seven acquisitions for an aggregate consideration of £260 million. The largest acquisition was Friatec, a German pipe systems group, bought for £174 million last year.

The stock market has been unimpressed by the restructuring. Yesterday Glynwed shares rose 11%p to 189%p, compared with a 12-month high of

Proceeds of the disposal will be used to further develop Glynwed's two core activities of pipe systems and consumer est stage of a wide-ranging re- and food service products. The organisation, initiated after a company may also extend its strategic review in 1996. Dur- share buyback programme.



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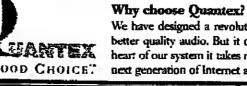
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Halifax plc. Trinity Road, Halifax 26th February 1999

Ashmad manic

WRG pand Tottenham kicks out ³ future dividends

PNG Stema stead; TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR, the resurgent North London football club chasing potentially lucrative European action next year, told shareholders yesterday that they will not be getting any dividends for the foresceable future. Football's longest stock mar-

ket quoted company, 41 per cent owned by the electronics said it would concenuate unstead on reinvesting cash into the business in a bid to crank up its serially underperformance share price. multimillionaire Alan Sugar, sas it would concentrate ining share price.

In the last financial year Spurs paid a total dividend of 0.75p, cut from lp, which

Card Clear rein time at makes problem

David Ginola, the Spurs winger

£584,000. John Sedgwick, finance director, said previous dividend payments had been nothing more than a gesture and that ordinary shareholders had said the money would be better spent on facilities.

In the six months to January 31, turnover, bolstered mainly by increasing gate receipts and television money. was up 20 per cent to £23.6 mil-lion. However, a 28 per cent uplift in playing staff wages, including that of George Gra-ham, the new on-field team manager, plus the £4.2 million cost in the period of the gradual write-off of previous transfer fees, saw pre-tax profits come in at £4.1 million, up just 2 per cent just 2 per cent

Mr Sedgwick, said Spurs's second-half results should be better than usual because of the club's runs in both the FA Cup and Worthington Cup. ☐ Sunderland, the trail-blazing leader of football's Nationwide first division, made pretax profits after player trans-fer costs of £435,000, a fall of 30 per cent, in the six months to November 30. Turnover rose 22 per cent to £9.8 million, boosted by average gates at the Stadium of Light of nearly 38,000, the fourth-best home gates in English foot-

Preston North End. the AIM-listed. promotion-chasing second division football club, made interim losses of £421,000, similarly to the previous year, in the six months

Sport, page 57

US block sends Glaxo tumbling

SHARES in Glaxo Wellcome tumbled 4 per cent yesterday after US marketing approval for the company's new influen-

An advisory committee to the US Food and Drug Adminstration voted 14-3 against recommending Relenza for approval because of doubts about the drug's effectiveness. Glaxo Wellcome has not abandoned hope of winning FDA approv-

al, but its chances look slim. Nigel Barnes, analyst at Merrill Lynch, said: "It's a significant setback. In trying to overturn a 14-3 vote, [Glaxo] may be

shares fell 82p to £20.66. Glaxo received its first European approval for Relenza two weeks ago. The drug was fore-

cast to have annual sales of up to £375 million by 2002. Claims that Relenza shorttwo and a half days were not borne out by the 770-patient US trial, which was much larger than the studies conducted

in Europe and Australia. The sethack caused a 52 per cent collapse in the share price of Biota Holdings, the Australian biotechnology company that originally developed Relenza.



See The Times on Monday for details

CHANGING TIMES

Sarah Cunningham on Kingfisher's move out of town

The wonder of Woolies

hen the first targe out-of-town Wool-worths opens its doors at Kinnaird on the out-skirts of Edinburgh later this year, customers will find something that bears little re-

semblance to the usual high street Woolies. The store will be three times as large as the largest ex-isting Woolworths. Also, it will bring together merchan-dise from all the other UK stores within the Kingfisher group — B&Q, Comet and Superdrug. This means that peo-ple will be able to get toys, children's clothes, videos, tele-visions, DIY equipment and toiletries from one store. There are plans for the store to incorporate a Burger King

outlet as well.

Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive of Kingfisher, likes to make the point that what binds the group together is that all its formats serve the needs of the home and family. The big new Wool-worths — which may be called Big W, although no decision has been taken on its name yet - will serve the



Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy is keen that the new store should serve all home and family needs

not have a great history in the

UK. Sainsbury's Savacentres

are being turned into giant

food stores after failing to live

up to customer expectations. Those with reasonably loog

memories will recall Woolco.

the out-of-town food and

clothing superstores that Kingfisher — then still called Woolworth Holdings — sold

in 1986. The new out-of-town

Woolworths will not have

der the one roof. Last year Kingfisher an-counced it intended to open about 50 new branches of that it already has nearly 800 stores, this is quite ambitious. Most of the new stores are likely to be similar to those found in the high street already. 15-20,000 sq ft in size.

However, the company does

intend to develop some targer branches, such as the one at Kinnaird. Kingfisher is in talks with property developers about finding new sites, al-though difficulties over planning permission are bound to arise. The Kinnaird store. which the company insists is experimental, has the advan-tage of being on the site of an

old, redundant B&Q. Large discount stores do food, which could prove a dis-advantage. "They are going to have trouble getting the footfall, people coming week in, week out, without food," Richard Hyman of Verdict. Kingfisher is sensitive to the suggestion that the Kinnaird store is a pre-emptive strike against WalMart, which is rumoured to be con-

templating establishing a presence in Britain. The American discount retailer, the largest retail company in the world, has begun a move into Europe, and could be looking at Britain. Costco, another US discount

chain, now has seven stores in the UK and is hoping to expand, although planning laws mean it is likely to happen only slowly. Costco also sells food. Asda which is also seen as possible UK target for WalMari — and Kingfisher talked briefly of a merger last year, and the idea has never entirely gone away. Al-though there will be no food on offer, a visit to Kinnaird, once the store is open, will give a flavour of what the two might have come up with.

Boeing to consider closures

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

BOEING has indicated that it may close down a number of its airline production lines in a major shake-up because 10 per

cent of its equity is invested in loss-making activities.

Phil Condit, Boeing chairman, said: "There are no sacred cows. Every single programme weve got is under scrutiny."

The mouse in he superprised

The move, to be supervised by Deborah Hopkins, the new finance director, is aimed at stemming the downward slide of the world's biggest aero-space group after a production shutdown 18 months ago. Ms Hopkins said the MDII

aircraft had been taken out of production because its costs were not matched by market potential. She said: "We will fix or eliminate any programmes that are not creating value. In future, there will be zero tolerance of value destruction.

Ms Hopkins was recently hired from General Motors to boost Boeing's credibility with investors. After the dramatic share price decline last year. some shareholders blamed Boeing's top executives for the production bottlenecks.

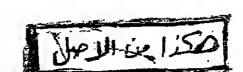


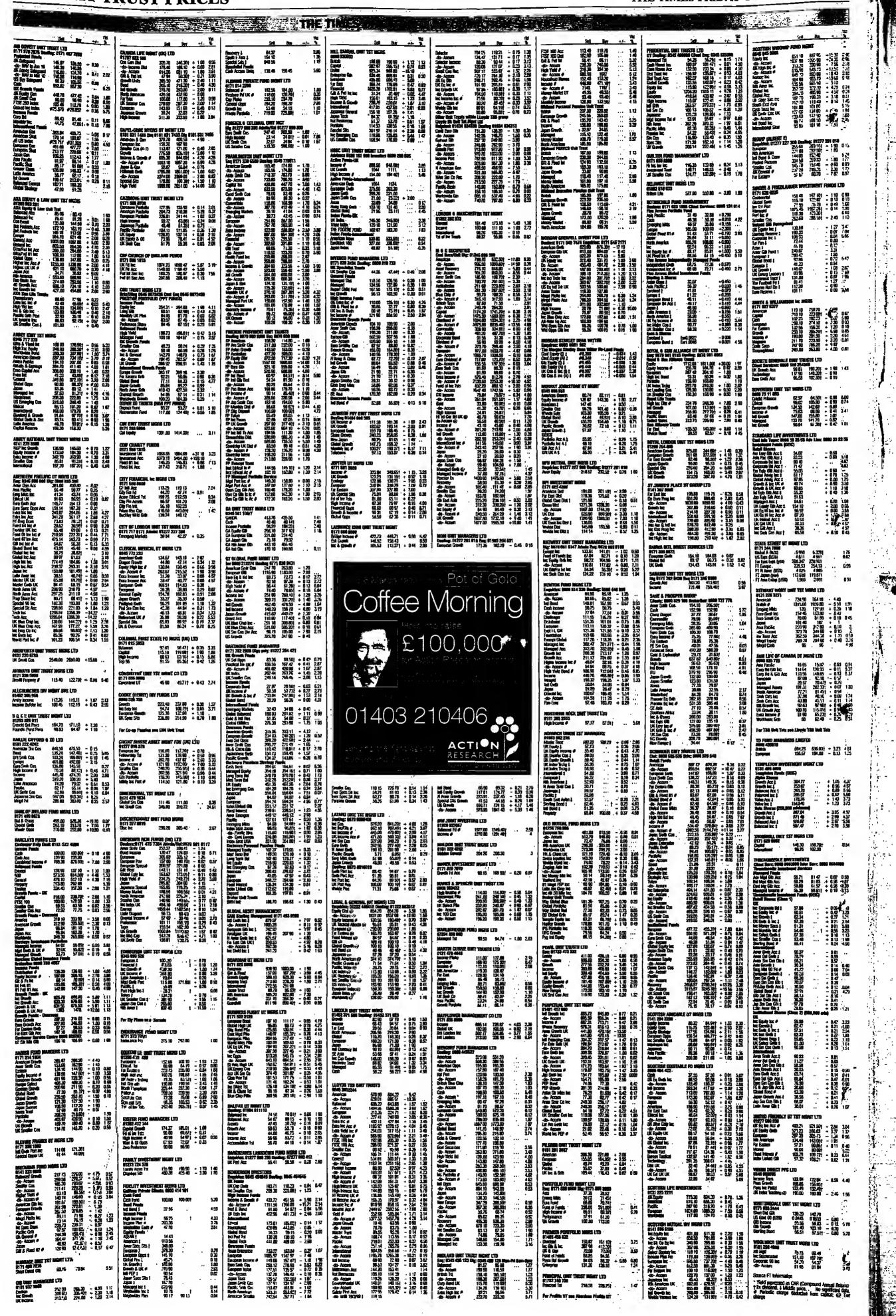
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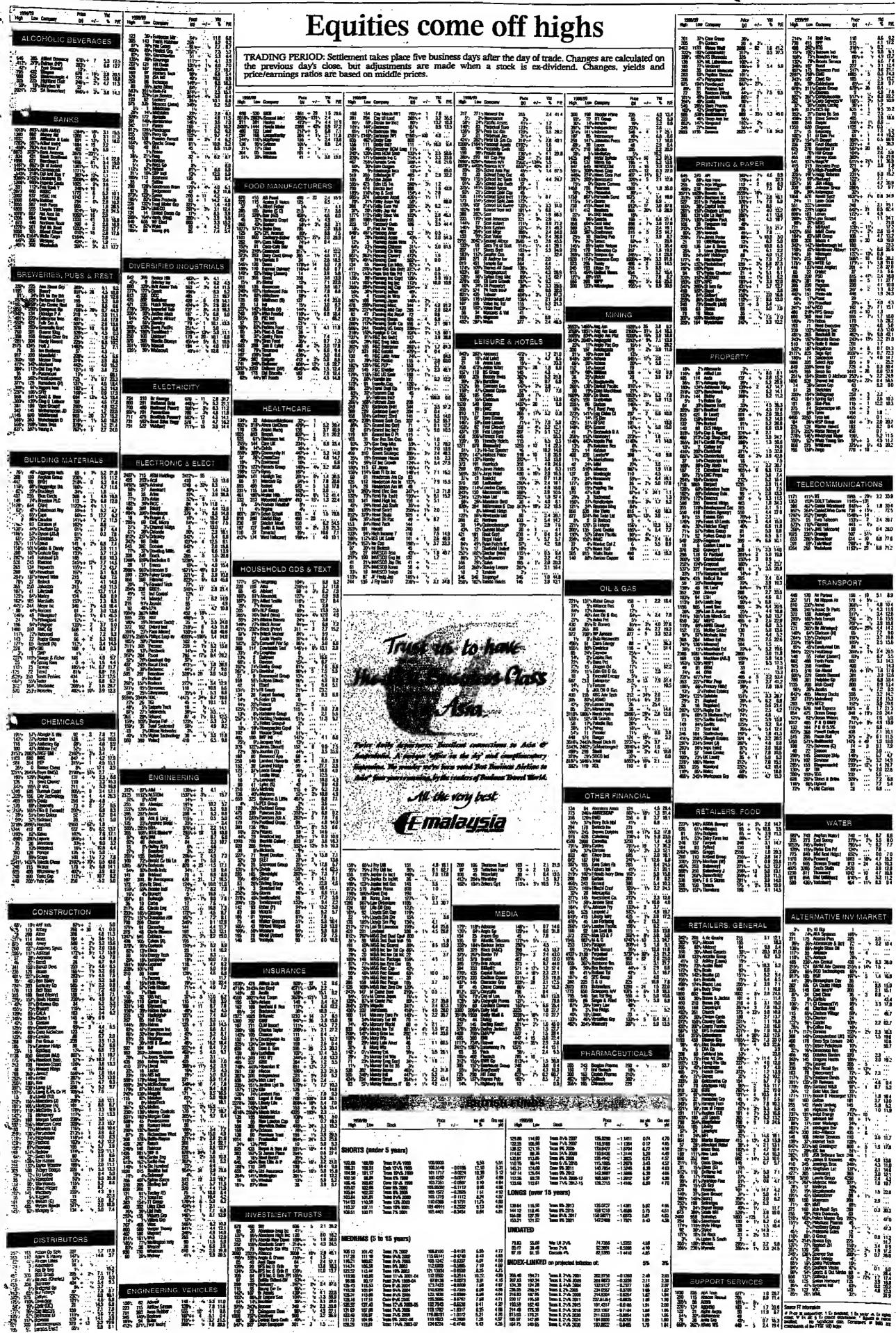
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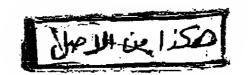


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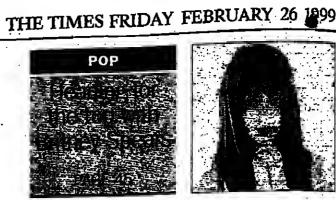






THEATRE

THE





Ready and willing

hat sets English
Touring Opera
apart from all those
er small-scale companies popping up like mushrooms after a storm is the quality of preparation. None of the sing-ers in ETO's new production of Verdi's Macbeth at the Arts Theatre is heading straight for La Scala (yet), the orchestra numbers just 27 and the chorus 14, but you know that just about everyone on or off the stage is performing to the very height of his or her capability.

The music director, Andrew Greenwood, has a natural feel for early Verdi, for the music's swagger and dash as well as its occasional inwardness. He and his band relish the special "colour" of this score, the shrieking piccolos, lowering low woodwind, howling brass,



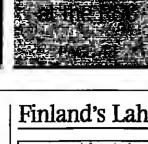
and he declines to show any embarrassment at the jauntier moments: when Verdi's witches sing about the weather, they can sound dangerously like General Stanley's daughters. Greenwood shrugs this off, goes for it, and judges the big-boned climaxes perfectly. On its own terms this is a thrilling musical performance.

Most importantly, Greenwood is always considerate of his singers, coaxing them into phrasing musically and imagimatively. Anthony Marber (Macbeth) has a light, high baritone but he was never tempted to force. Instead he exploited his feel for long, Italianate line and for the meaning of words (Andrew Porter's Rhodes's Lady is simply fearless in her assault on runs, coloratura and top notes, and just as impressive in the quieter moments.

She. Marber and Greenwood handle the Murder Duet with great insight, but just how far a soprano should come off the centre of the notes in the Sleepwalking Scene in the interests of dramatic verisimilitude is a matter for debate. Henry Waddington is a decent, stolid Banquo, but some-one might remind the two tenors that less noise can pay dividends even in early Verdi.

Plain sets (Nathalie Gibbs). operatic-medieval costumes (Dinah Collin) — it all looks a bit village-hally, and sometimes sounds it as well. The producer, Robert Chevara, is fine when dealing with the principals but less sure with crowds and apparitions. Musically, though, audiences on ETO's tour are in for a treat.

RODNEY MILNES



Finland's Lahti Symphony Orchestra is bringing Sibelius to Birmingham. John Allison profiles a remarkable band



Tundra rolls in from the East,

t is a common enough expression, but coming from a Finn it carries extra meaning: Osmo Vānskā talks of a "snowball effect" when describing the phenome-nal story of the Lahti Symphony Orchestra. There can hardly be a more appropriate way of recounting what has hap-pened in this quiet Finnish city over the past decade.

Though the orchestra has become famous through its se-ries of ground-breaking and award-winning Sibelius recordings on the BIS label, few outside Finland have heard it live. But it takes another step towards international recognition this weekend with its British debut: a weekend of Sibelius concerts in Birmingham.

year for the Lahti Symphony Orchestra. Apart from cele-brating its 50th birthday, it is also due to move into a brand new concert hall. Construction is being supported, as ever in Finland, by generous funding. but approval from the city council came by an extremely narrow margin, as Lahti's high unemployment rate means many other priorities too. The lakeside Sibelius Hall has been designed entirely in wood as the flagship of Finnish wood-building skills, and boasts the same acoustical consultants as Birmingham's

Symphony Hall. There are, perhaps, other parallels with Birmingham. Although the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra was much less provincial than its Lahti counterpart, both bands were transformed by conductors who simultaneously made their own careers while on the job. Very different from Simon Rattle in temperament, the more introverted Vānskā has achieved a no less stunning makeover of his orchestra, which he first conducted soon after winning the International Young Conductors' Competition in Besançon in 1982. He became principal guest conductor in 1985 and music director three years later, but even then would have been surprised by a glimpse

into the future. "Of course I wanted to build something," says Vanska, now in his mid-forties. "But it was a This should be a significant dream, certainly not reality. If someone had told me ten years ago what would happen. I'd have laughed." Authoritative on the podium but self-effacing in conversation, he stresses the way in which his fortunes have been linked to those of the orchestra - "If I have learnt anything about my job. they have been very good teachers" - but is reluctant to offer an easy recipe for

> "Work is the best advice I can give - and it's taken time. It's been a step-by-step process in which no one really knew where we were going, but everyone was ready to give their best. Other than that, one needs patience, ideas about

the music, and the keys to open psychological locks. "An orchestra also needs to

be humble enough to accept that it has to work, and not all orchestras are. Our orchestra knows that even if something went well in a concert, the next morning we have to start again from zero."

Vānskā may have built his and the orchestra's reputation on Sibelius, but he has broadened the Lahti repertoire considerably and cultivated a distinctive sound. The strings have a warm, soft-grained tone, well suited to Romantic music, and the orchestra is currently progressing through its first Bruckner cycle.

anskā says: "In the past there's been too much German music, so in recent seasons I've done a lot of British composers. And people forget that there are Finnish composers other than Sibelius. We've recorded everyone from Crussell to Lindberg and Aho. If Finnish orchestras don't do Finnish music, who will? "I believe there's a lot of

good music out there that didn't go down well because the premiere was badly played. The risk with contemporary works is that if they are not rehearsed properly, the au-dience will not like them and they'll disappear." Vänskä knows both sides of

orchestral life, having been principal clarinet in the Turku

and Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestras before studying conducting. He has held chief conductorships of the Iceland Symphony Orchestra, Tapiola Sinfonietta and, since 1996, the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, and he is now one of the many Finnish conductors making their mark on the musical world, a number out of all proportion to such a

small country. "I think the basic reason has to be Sibelius. Firmish conductors have been invited all over lights will be the neglected Russian tradition. Yet he does and Sunday

the world to do him, and though he is not necessarily the reason for their success, he could be the starting point. That first invitation might not always have come if it were not for Finnish music. "Compare us with Sweden

- there are no major Swedish composers and far fewer Swedish conductors."

The composer will be the focus of this weekend's series of concerts and talks, titled Sibelius: the Creative Process. High-

tone poem The Wood Nymph. the original and revised editions of the Fifth Symphony. and the first British perform-ance of the original version of the Violin Concerto, given with special permission of the Sibelius family. Vanskā is undoubtedly one

of the leading interpreters of the composer today, a conductor whose vigorous approach to his music has underlined Sibelius's modernity rather than his roots in the 19th-century

our history we don't like these Russian influences, but we are neighbours, we do have con-nections and we have to accept that our culture is linked. But to me he is one of the most original composers in history, the deepest of our century's symphonists. He was very contemporary for his time, but still spoke to ordinary people."

not deny them. "Because of

◆ The Lahti Symphony Orchestra is at Symphony Hall, Birming-ham, (0121-212 3333) tomorrow

Wrong way traffic

CONCERTS Glasgow

TOWARDS the end of the exotic Song of the Beggars by the Korean composer Hyo Shin Na there is a distinct allusion to Der Leierman, the last song in Schubert's Winterreise cyde. That would seem a good example of the influence of European music on another culture. But there it was, together with several items like it, in a concert presented by the BBC as part of a week of events designed to illustrate the movement of the traffic in precisely the opposite direction.

Well, if you are thinking of promoting a Beyond our Shores festival in the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall and the Kronos Quartet is available. there is no point in being too academic about it. If the Kronos Quartet is offering the first performance of parts of a Philip Glass film score so new that h is still unfinished and so newsworthy that the title of the film cannot be revealed, you do not turn it down. The

feeling that we have heard it all before and the suspicion that it would be little different whatever the film are all risks evidently worth taking. And Alfred Schnittke's Second String Quartet was very wel-come even though middle-peri-od Bartók should by historical rights have been in its place and the cross-cultural influ-ence is no more than that of Russian Orthodox music on Russian chamber music.

Quartet concert featured pieces from no fewer than seven nationalities, which was both highly entertaining and a little disappointing. Portuguese guitar music by Carlos Paredes, Argentinean tango tunes for bandoneon by Anibal Troilo. Gloomy Sunday in a version for Hungarian gypsy band by Rezso Seress: it all seemed very colourful in prospect but, arranged in each case by Osvaldo Golijov, it all sounded very Kronos. Conceived from the first for string quartet. Ale-ksandra Vrebalov's Panonia and Franghiz Al-Zadeh's Oasis are both more authentic examples of cultural fusion, and therefore more interesting, de-

The first half of the Kronos

spite being too long. In the midst of all this, the effect of the first performance of Terry Riley's Cortejo Funebre en el Monte Diablo was exotic to an extreme. Written for synthesizers as well as the Kronos strings, it is an extraordinary mixture of simulated and natural sounds with a bizarre yet irresistible fascination.

GERALD LARNER

Three parts of his sum

150/Manzel E Bandar

AT THE risk of appearing jacks of all trades and maestros of none, today's conductors seem compelled to prove themselves musicians of many parts. Michael Tilson Thomas and Esa-Pekka Salonen show off their composing flair: Osmo Vānskā wields his clarinet. And Lorin Maazel is flourishing baton, bow and manuscript in the course of his three concerts this week with the London Symphony Orchestra. First the bow. It led the way

as Maazel the violinist strode on stage, ahead of his timid and obedient conductor. Wolfgang Gieron. Together they laced the first of Bartók's Two Portraits — of a violinist with whom the Hungarian composer was infatuated in his youth. As it is her "celestial and inward" qualities which are celebrated here, the music introduces the soloist gently. Although the violin is silent

for only a few moments of brief woodwind glory, it is musicianship rather than technique which is on trial here, as

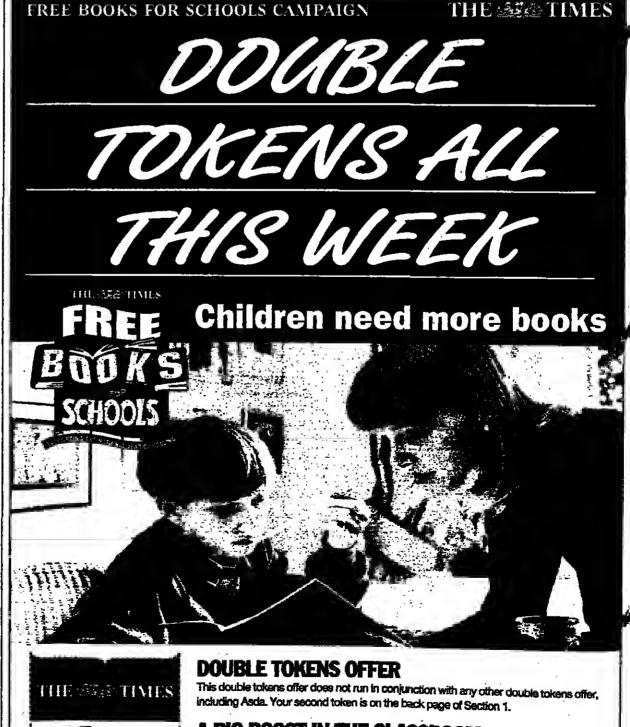
a single motif is spun into song, then woven into the subtlest of contrapuntal rextures with the orchestral strings. Maazei captured Bartók's severe melancholy in a sentient performance. And now for Maazel the

composer. The centrepiece of the evening was the British premiere of his single-movement Music for Violin and Orchestra. Maazel has indicated seven sections within its 20 minutes: but, on a first hearing, there seem to be far more. so capricious is this episodic frieze of moods and effects.

Ideas - mischievous, sentimental, violent, vulgar - are flung between every section of the orchestra to no particular structural or expressive purpose: there is much fiddling while Rome never quite burns. And then the cadenza. Here, Maazel really does put himself through his paces and, with more than a nod to Bartók's homeland, invites the cimbalom to join him. Seated at his scarlet and gold keyboard, hammers poised, Cyril Dupuy nervously awaited his cue. and then contributed a disappointingly meagre wash of that distinctively aqueous, coppery sound. After this came a "raintorest" of orchestral activity, calming the soloist to a

first and last point of repose. Maazel's skill really is more recreative than creative: and this was proved in a brilliantly executed solo performance of his own witty orchestration of Kreisler's Gypsy Caprice.

HILARY FINCH





A BIG BOOST IN THE CLASSROOM

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SEE THE BACK PAGE OF SECTION ONE FOR TODAY'S SECOND TOKEN CHANGING TIMES

et again mankind has pulled it off. We have notched up some formidable successes in our time on this planet, haven't we? Inventing language, splitting the atom, flying to the Moon, assembling an Ikea wardrobe. But this year we faced the ultimate challenge: what to do about the millennium. We knew it was the Big One. We knew it matnered, not least because Tony Blair told us it did. We just didn't know why. Or how. Or even (to pedantic minds, at least) when.
Well, readers, I have been working night and day for more than

half an hour to answer those ques-tions. I have surfed the Net, trawled the libraries, scanned the press, quizzed the experts, and truised the Common (but that's another story, and anyway they stole my wallet). My conclusion? Man-kind has triumphed again! The cynics said the millennium would be meaningless — but human inge-

nuity has proved them wrong.

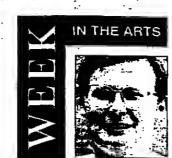
The millennium? We're all mad for it

how well they fit national stereo-types. Only in California, for instance, would you expect to find a two-day party for 2.5 million revellers, ending with the firing of 2,000 rifles (upwards, one hopes) at midnight on December 31. And surely only the French would dare to decree a truly Napoleonic projet to plant an 800-mile row of trees in a straight line along the Paris meridian from Dunkirk to the Spanish border - and tough luck on anyone whose vineyard stands in the way. Toute la France will then pic-nic next to the young saplings on Bastille Day next year. What larks.

This, however, is not France's grandest millennial wheeze. It also has a plan to launch a satellite that will carry good wishes to our descendants in the 521st century, for uity has proved them wrong. ... the satellite will be programmed to What I most like about the mil- return to Earth in 50,000 years' ennium jollies announced so far is time. Rather like sending a post-

card home from the Dordogne. The Germans, of course, are taking the concept of Vorsprung durch Technik into the new century: their main millennium offering is "the biggest trade fair of all time". Be still, my beating heart. As for the Swiss, they have decided — with hair-splitting calendrical exacti-tude — that as a "nation of accurate clockmakers" they will begin their millennial celebrations a year after everybody else, on January 1, 2001.

Gosh, that's so ... Swiss.
What of Britain? My dears, your bosoms should swell with pride. for we undoubtedly lead the world in the Barmy Millennium Ideas department. The magnificent absurd-ity of this global knees-up clearly strikes a chord deep in that part of our national psyche which compelled us to build railways up the Khyber Pass, invent cricket, and go out in the midday sun. The crazi-



RICHARD MORRISON

er the tea-party, the more we enjoy playing the Mad Hatter. And you don't even need to go to Greenwich to experience British pottiness at its best. No, the beauty of the Government's Millennium Festival is that, as the Culture Secretary Chris Smith says, mad ideas

are right on your doorstep! Well. he doesn't quite say that. But he did sound joily proud of the 1,149 millennium projects for which he announced funding this week.

Quite right too. The list makes the mouth water: £25,000 for a play celebrating the "aspirations of the people of Dagenham"; £29,000 to assemble "exciting visuals" for a show called The Changing Face of Luton: £25,000 to pay for people to the kites in Herefordships £25,000 fly kites in Herefordshire, £25,000 for a "dance in the workplace" project (book your sick leave now); E25,000 for a "psycho-geographical map of Susser": E28,000 to place a 2,000ft canvas on the bed of the Thames in order to capture the flotsam and jetsam of the last tide of 1999 ... and so on, up to the jaw-dropping sum of £100 million.

Money well spent? Not every-

body thinks so, you will be stagger-

ingly unsurprised to learn. The pro-

fessional arts world is particularly scornful: the money used to commission one "psycho-geographical map", it is pointed out, could have saved a regional theatre from going dark. Does Britain really need 8,000 miles of eco-friendly cycleways? Does every village hall in the land need a luxurious rebuild? Isn't this parochialism run riot?

f course. In fact one Essex council has so many mil-lennium ideas that it has set up a website to tell the world's cyber-nerds about them. My anorak quite trembled with excitement as I clicked on to the Kelvedon Embroidery Project, I can tell you.

But what's wrong with a celebra-tion of parochialism, if it rekindles those estimable virtues of local pride, home-grown wit and civic eccentricity? Croydon wants to spend £4 million lighting its skyline after

dark? Go for it, you crazy Croydon dudes! Manhattan must be quak-ing at the prospect of such glamor-ous competition. Bury St Edmunds wants to finish building its cathedral? Admirable. At 500 years, it has been a long job, even by the standards of British builders.

Only one thing worries me. Will there be anyone available to enjoy all these millennium projects? Af-ter all, thousands of us will be tied up in putting the events on. Many more will be spending new year crouched nervously over computers that could "bug out" disastrously. Or we will be earning hundreds of pounds as waiters. Or we will be drunk. Or we will be so fed up with the whole global-party thing that we will have retired to bed early. preferably in congenial company. Whatever, we won't be available

to attend such delights as The Changing Face of Luton. So if you think that you might be able to fulfil the important role of Spectator to the Millennium, do write to Chris Smith, won't you? You may well qualify for a grant

HENrison 39

Wild, grotesque - fair enough

hen I saw Laurence Boswell's revival of Jonson's most ebullient comedy at Stratford in 1997, I fancied I had been plunged into the Malibu parish of the Benidorm district of the Blackpool region of what, the Ea since giant puppets wearing devil-masks came carousing on to the stage, must be Rio. But now that the RSC has moved the production south, I

realised I understated. With Newcastle United shirts, garish yellow tweed and plenty of atmospheric sleaze added to the Hawaiian blouses and baseball caps, the geographic mix also includes St James' Park, red-light Am-" sterdam and a Scots theme park for gullible tourists. No. this is not the grimy Smithfield where Jonson set his play nor even the festive Smithfield that gave our ancestors a smaller version of our own Notting Hill Carnival.

Does it matter? Well, I have seen productions that achieved period consistency and a documentary sense of place without sacrificing too much fun, Moreover, the attempts of Boswell's cast to be vivid and hilarious still get overstrenuous. But they do catch the comic munificence, the exuberance and subversive

glee that made Jonson Jonson. All that occurs is that a batch of well-to-do citizens mantic young bloods, crusading puritans to repressed wives - wander among the traders, tarts, pimps, pickpockets and madmen of Bartholomew Fair and receive what Jonson regarded as a salutary shake-up. They are like particles thrust into a highly unsta-ble physical field. Ids are released, anarchy is unleashed. Gentlewomen become trollops, hypocrites are exposed. The respectable recognise that they belong to a lascivious,

brawling, sweaty species - or. as Jonson puts it, see they are "but Adam,-flesh and blood". That remark is addressed to the officious JP Overdo -John Quayle weirdly dis-guised in an outfit that would have embarrassed Harpo Marx - who is trying to sleuth out and punish "enormity", But it applies with even more



of-the-land Busy, a big. slobbering cultmaster whose noisy attack on the theatre ends up humiliatingly bested by an articulate, argumentative pup-pet in a Punch and Judy show. Boswell's cast can, as I say. be faulted for being too febrile.

greasy pig-seller, or Owen Sharpe as a slimily grinning pickpocket in a sub-Capone suit, or Rob Edwards as a louche gallant with five days stubble and a hangover that means he cannot raise his own voice without pain, or Gavin Muir as the busybodying male nanny to a lad who would make Aguecheek seem Mensa material - well, you marvel at the energy, pacey timing and feeling for the grotesque the RSC can generate.

> BENEDICT **NIGHTINGALE**

Fierce sting in the tales

But when you are watching

THIS bracingly macabre show is back in London for two months and should be seen by anyone with a fondness for gruesome tales, falsetto singing, Victorian melodra-ma, stage trickery, puppets and vivid illustrations of the dangers of thumb-sucking.
It derives from Dr Heinrich

Hoffmann's celebrated book. originally titled Struwwel-peter and firmly kept away from the impressionable young when I was a child. What I did not know then

was that Dr H had intended his verses and pictures to be funny. Michael Morris from this essential truth, as did Phelim McDermott and Julian Crouch from Improbable Theatre, and the astonishing Martyn Jacques, accordionist and singer of The Tiger Lillies.

It is the unearthly voice of Jacques that haunts the show.



His singing combines a grainy sweetness with a powerful delivery, far stronger than falsetto voices normally manage. Add to this an impassively gentle face and a sense of innocent world-weariness and you have a unique and unforgettable presence.

- But this is not all. The warning tales are introduced by the similarly weird Julian Bleach, actor of the (very) old school, who gazes at us with a baleful eye, rolls his tongue around the words and prances across the tiny stage like a spider crab on acid.

This stage, recreating a Victorian toy theatre, is equipped with 12 major doors and ten smaller ones, through which the variously doomed characters flit, accompanied by cutout furniture, and puppets large and small.

Tamzin Griffin's Harriet. for example, who fatally plays with matches, lifts up her dress to reveal orange and red petticoats which she flutters into flamelike agitation before disappearing behind them through a trap, leaving just her button boots behind.

The ambivalent image of Shockheaded Peter, unloved child yet somehow a wrongdoer, lurks throughout, pieregernails, and eventually bursting through the facade to stare at us in silent accusation - one of this award-winning show's multitude of serio-comic and unsettling moments.



Child's play

wrote: "From a thousand adjectives which fairly clamour for a chance to describe the Great American Mentality, there immediately stands forth one. Infantile."

A form of that infantilism is strikingly on display in Robert Falls's nightmarish, expressionistic 50th-anniversary production of Death of a Salesman at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre, and not just in Kevin Anderson's sullen Biff and Ted Koch's puppyish Happy. Falls links their emotional immaturity to Brian Dennehy's burly, vulnerable Willy Lo-man, who has never adapted his adolescent dreams to reality. He is jarringly called "kid" by younger men, and even Elizabeth Franz's patient Linda says "You are such a boy."

The production, from Chicago's Goodman Theatre, makes more of the Lomans' psychological dysfunction than of the overfamiliar plight of workers discarded by society. The first sound one hears is not the delicate flute that the playwright Arthur Miller describes, but rather a cacophony inside Willy's head: the roaring car engines of the salesman's life compete with the jungle

drums heralding brother Ben's success.

Like a buffalo lost from its herd, Dennehy's Willy trudges around Mark Wendland's spare furnishings, isolated in a sprawling inkiness. Dennehy alternates convincingly between Willy's go-getting fantasies and a piercing selfdoubt, but there is equal poignancy in Franz's portrait of a woman agonised by the quarrels of her brood.

Howard Witt's neighbour Charley, kind and wittily deadpan, is the ideal father figure, but surely Happy should not be more muscular than Biff? And Richard Thompson as the bookish Bernard should not tower over both Anderson and Koch, playing athletes. Such quibbles aside, the production confirms Miller's masterpiece as a peak of modern drama.

At the Ambassador Theatre is a different sort of triumph. The 1967 off-Broadway musical You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, based on the Peanuts characters, was just a series of vignettes punctuated by serviceable songs.



Brian Dennehy in Miller's Death of a Salesman

Is it the director, Michael Mayer, then, who has spun the sheer enchantment in this revival? He is certainly helped by Roger Bart's loopy Snoopy. singing a Jolsonesque paean to suppertime and joining Kristin Chenoweth's prickly Sally on a hunt for rabbits to the James Bond theme, Anthony Rapp in a bad haircut makes a perfect put-upon hero, and D. Wong's Linus partners his own blanket in an Astairish duet. A show to tick-

EDWARD KARAM

le both children and adults.

Peer pressure in black and white

ROY WILLIAMS'S new play is uncomfortable viewing in more ways than one. A single row of benches surrounds an eye-level concrete platform in the rough-and-ready Stage Space. The audience glance coyly across at each other. when they are not being blinded by a bank of megawatt lights. Paper planes are launched at them by an actor

perched on a gantry. But the circle of intimate collusion created by the no-frills set suits the naked intensity of Williams's writing. Lift Off is an attack on the pressures to conform faced by deprived kids. Not to conform to their parents' ways - this is about peer pressure in the playground and on the council estate, the skewed prestige of violence, petty crime, under-age

sex and racial intolerance. The action cuts between the experiences of two friends at primary school and in late adolescence. Mal is black, a cocksure kid turned fight-picking thug. Tone is white but wishes he wasn't: he looks up to his friend, apes his speech, envies his success with girls. It is girls

THE DIE or Cardon - Thora

apart: first Tone's younger sister Carol, who seduces Mal and gets herself pregnant, then Hannah, who preys on Tone's sexual frustration by inciting him to racist attacks on Mal to prove his virility.

The characters and dia

logue, all schoolboy insults and clubland putdowns, mostly ring true, and there is enough humour to make these two hard men curiously sympathetic. Mal is intriguingly complex: aggressive and proud, he is also haunted by memories of Rich, the sensi-tive loner who takes his life after the two bully him for rejecting violence. Rich is the paperplane maker: it is a symbol of his desire to bift himself above his background. Where Tone blindly if loyally follows, Mal is intelligent enough to see in Rich a better way - but callow enough to reject it in favour of loyalty only to his desires.

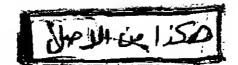
The cast, capably directed by Indhu Rubasingham, do justice to Williams's script. Ashley Chin, Sid Mitchell and Mohammed George exude confidence as the young friends Michael Prince and Alex Walkinshaw are convincingly callous as the older Mal and Tone. Laura Sadler and Sarah Cakebread are given less to work with, but make the most of the girls' parts.

The script occasionally falls back on cliché — perhaps una-voidably, since it deals with social stereotypes. But this is entertainingly combative stuff.

NIGEL CLIFF

UNLEASHED EVERY WEEK





LISTINGS

Wuthering Heights staged

ARTS

Chieftains get their girls

RECOMMENDED THIS WEEKEND

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargle

MAHLER AND VIENNA: The Philhar-mone Orchestra emberks on the second leg at this seenes with a look at the legacy left by German Roman-ticism to the composers of the Second Viennese School. Chais from Hayde's The Creation is followed by Schoen-berg's monodrama Envariang, sung by mezzo Hildagard Behrans, and Beethoven's Seventh Symphony. Christoph von Dohnanyl conducts.



Hildegard Behrens sings Schoenberg in London

Purcell Room (0171-960 4242).

EL QUIJOTE: Start of the Gate's new kilots Season; David Johnston's new Marta Mombiant Ribas. Gate Theatre (0171-229 0708). Opens tonight, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

GLASGOW: Scottlah premiere for Judith Weir's A Night at the Chinese Opera. The Scottlah Chamber Orchestra under Andrew Parrott is joined by a fine cast of empers for the colourful and exotte drama set in the time of Kubba Khen, Part of BSC Scottlah 18 - Conton settler. Radio 3's Sounding the Cartury series. Royal Concert Hall (0141-287 5511). Tonight, 7,30pm. (5) LEEDS: Malcolm Sutherland direct

LECUS: Matcolm Sutherland directs his new version of Wuthering Heights, Elisabeth Dermot Walsh and Chook Sibistin play the lovers. Aurary (0113-213 7700). Previews tron tonght, 7-30cm © LIVERPOOL: The Royal Liverpool
Philharmonic Orchestra continues
its Richard Strauss celebrations. Libor
Pesak conducts the composer's Don
Julan followed by Burlesque for Piano
with Cristina Ortiz as soloist. Suk's
Asrael Symphony, the periormance of
which won Pesak his postoon with the
ALPO ten years ago, ends procredings
Philharmonic Hell (0151-709 3799)
Torhorow, 7 30om (8)

WARMICK Interpol champions of new missic, the Knonos Guartet, continue to make complex compositions accessable in a programme leaking a accessable in a programme leaking a new Philip Glass preceded by preces by Steve Reich and Alfred Schnittke

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London ■ House full, returns only 🔊 Some seats available 🖸 Seats at all prices

E BAREFACED CHIC: Fascinating Ada play here for a month before setting off on their latest national tour. This time Clarke Peters directs.

☐ THE GREEN SNAKE: Masa Studio's interpretation of Goethe's lairy tale The Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily, done with puppets and, of course, masks. Riverside Studios (0181-237 1111).

☐ THE MUALAS: Insh all-girl saturcal sunging the bring harmony, hilanty and a sharp look at humanity. Drill Hall (0171-637 8270). SHOCKHEADED PETER: The

Scissonman is back wonderfully sinister show by the Cultural Industry learn with the Tiger Littles and Martyn Jacques's laiseto screech. See review, page 43. Lyric (0181-741 8701).

N OFFENDING THE CAVEMAN: Mark Little makes his West End debut

the origins of the man/woman difference back to the caves, Apollo (0171-494 5070.)

☐ HOWARD CRABTREE'S WHEN

☐ HOWIE THE ROOKIE: Mark O'Rows's registrates account of Dublish's vicious underworld feutls, Miles Brachvell directs Aldan Kelly and Karl Shelcts Bush (0181-749 3388),

COPENHAGEN; Heisenberg calls on Niets Bohr in wertime Dermark. Michael Frayn's enjoyably intelligent play transfers to the West End. Michael Blakemore directs. Duchess (0171-494 \$075). ☐ TALK OF THE CITY: Stephe

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

NEW RELEASES

THE THIN RED LINE (15); A glittering cast of American soldiers lose their sanity in the South Pacific during the and World War. Terrence Malick's Sirst film for 20 years is an artistic masterpiece. With Sean Penn, Jim Caviezel, Ben Chaplin, Nick Noite.

YOUVE GOT MAIL (PG): Bullet-proof romentic blockbuster with Torri Hanks and Meg Ryan who fall in love on the Internet. Written and directed by Nora Ephron. PAINTED ANGELS (15): Bleak

period prece about the prostitutes who serviced the frontiersmen of the Vrial West. A joyless plod between the smelly puriters and the drab wooden rooms by Jon Sanders.

TITANIC TOWN (15), Julie Walters PERDITA DURANGO (18): Rose Percz and Javier Bardem are two Tex-Mez pyschopaths who run smo is a careless road morie imolwing voodoo, frozen loetuses and drugs Alex de la belena drawn.

Aler de la Iglesia directs. URBAN LEGEND (16): Dire James Bienks honor flick that sleshes through an American campus with the help of a migraine-inducing orchestra

CURRENT

AFFLICTION (15): Paul Schrader's bruising portrait of 8 Invistrated small-town cop. Nick Note and James Coburn put in powerful representations and expension of street and expension of streets and performances as father and son caught in a cycle of male violence. THIS YEAR'S LOVE (18): David

HOLY MAN (PG): Eddie Murphy's HOLY MAN (PG): Eddle Murphy's naive spintual guru and Jeff Goldblum's sleazy TV executive team up to sell inferior products on a shopping channel, Orector Stephen Herek flogs the satire rather less keenly than his big name stars

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL PGI Roberto ngni's romantic Second World Was le staches a disturbing comedy into me Hothcaus! Supremely and actor out the come treatment of the struggle to survive in a death camp is at best



Shall we join the ladies? Paddy Maloney with the Corrs - every track on the Chieftains' new album features a different female lead singer

Take your partners

addy Maloney is ready for all the jokes about beauty and the beast. For more than 30 years his band the Chieftains have enjoyed an unrivalled reputation as Ireland's best-loved traditional group. but they have never exactly been pin-ups. Now, thanks to a collaboration with the Corrs, currently the glossiest stars in the pop firmament, the Celtic

veterans look set to enjoy their first hit single in a career which began before the charttopping siblings were born. They will make a remarkable sight on Top of the Pops. "I know." Maloney says with a smile. "What are these old Irish devils with their beer bellies and their receding hairlines doing with the most gor-

geous young group in the busi-ness? But it just clicked. I knew the song was right for them."
We are in Dublin with both bands to celebrate their collaboration and the Corrs, who hail from Dundalk, are equally thrilled with the new record - an old standard called I Know My Love, reinvented as a frothy but delightful piece of pop-lite that finds the Chief-

tains playing up a Gaelic storm behind the enchanting harmonies of a band whose Talk On Corners was the biggest-selling album of last year. "We grew up on the Chieftains. Our music is pop and rock but it has a strong Celtic

influence so it was an honour

that they deemed us worthy to

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MULTI AWARD WINNING PLAY COPENHAGEN Dr by MCMEL RAMENOFE Thomas performances in

acty parlon

Mar-Sat 7.30 Mats The & Set 2.30

Ireland's Chieftains have teamed up with the ladies

play with them," Andrea Corr

says.

Paddy rang us in LA and we were very surprised," Jim Corr explains. "He sent us a tape of the song and asked us to do it. We were a bit suspi-cious, but when we got a feel for his ideas, we knew it would

The single, set for release in May, comes from Tears of Stone, the Chieftains' new album, which features not only the Corrs but a different female vocalist on every track, from American folk-rockers Joni Mitchell and Natalie Merchant to little-known singers from Norway and Japan.

As Ireland's foremost musical ambassadors, the Chieftains are no strangers to starstudded collaborations. In recent years they have been to Nashville to record with Willie Nelson and other country legends. Such luminaries as the Rolling Stones and Tom Jones guested on their Long Black Veil album, and Maloney's fertile musical imaginacion has seen them trawling the world to play with local musicians from the Cuban barrios to the Great Wall of China.

This ceaseless experimenta tion has led to debate within the Chieftains camp about straying too far from their roots. When Padoy comes up

for their new album, Nigel Williamson reports with another madcap idea, I say, When are the Chieftains

going to make an Irish tradi-tional album?" Matt Molloy, the band's flautist, remarked last year.
"He's right," admits Ma-

You will hear something similar in folk music from India to South America ?

loney. "Although you have to remember in the past we did record about 20 traditional alburns. But the next record will be called The Chieftains in Ireland. The plan is to travel the country and highlight different styles of trish music. There is such diversity. Kerry is different from Clare, and Donegal is different again. It will be a primer of Irish styles and it's about time we did something like that again."

In the meantime, no one but the most blinkered purist is going to object to Tears of Stone. a seductive album in which

thought of the jazz singer Diana Krall and she definitely found a new way of doing it." Some of the more far-flung contributions are among the most interesting. "With Akiko the Chieftains' magnificently authentic playing provides the Yano from Japan I wanted to explore the common strands of perfect backdrop for a series of stunning voices. The album was finally finished last No-vember when Bonnie Raitt

wanted to add her voice, too. but Maloney had already

the project expanded that he

had to declare the book closed.

making and I started calling it

the grandmas' album because

we took so long," he jokes.

"Joni Mitchell had promised

to find a slot in her diary.

Then, when I thought we had

almost finished, I met Natalie

Merchant totally by accident

in the pub in my little village

in Wicklow. She was playing

in Dublin, I saw her show and

had to have her on the record.

She was free the next day and

we recorded her in two takes."

ell's composition Magdalene

Laundries, all of the repertoire

was suggested to the singers

by Maloney. "You have to pick songs that suit the voice. I al-

ways said I would never do

Danny Boy, for example. It's

been done so many times.

Then I started thinking about

voices that could bring some-

thing fresh to it. I thought of

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With the exception of Mitch-

"It was three years in the

Eastern and Celtic music. I composed the music and she flew to Dublin to record the put the words to it and we called it Sake in the Jar. last track. Sheryl Crow had missed so many deadlines as

Aretha Franklin but then I

"I wanted to ask different singers to come into our world because if you listen to sean nos, which is the old style of Irish traditional singing, you will hear something similar in folk music all around the world, from India to South America."

I his embracing of difus a song and we had to wait ferent traditions from around the globe and co-opting them as outposts of the Irish cultural diaspora has become the Chieftains' trademark. It is illustrated perfectly in the song recorded in Gaelic by Raitt. "There's this chord on the first track played on a 10th-century Irish harp and then it goes straight into Bonnie's slide guitar picking up the same note straight out of the Mississippi Delta. I loved that. She had a tear in her eye when she finished. And I don't mind telling you I did, too."

RCA Victor. I Know My Love, fea-turing the Chieftains and the Corrs, will be released in May

Mixing the 🏺 spices

CHARLIE MARIANO

Bangalore (Intuition INT 3246-2) CHARLIE MARIANO has been visiting and studying in India for nearly three decades now, and his recordings with members of the Karnataka College of Percussion date back 15 years, so he is something of an adept at blending his jazz alto sound with the textures and rhythms of the subcontinent. Of course, improvisation in general, as well as stylistic features such as call-and-respons patterns and spontaneous interplay between instruments, are common to both traditions, and several Indian members of the I4-piece band involved here commute between them too. So the ease and natural assurance of the music - written by singer R. A. Rama-

NEW JAZZ ALBUMS

mani, guitarist Amit Heri keyboard player Louis Banks along with Mariano — is unsurpris-ing. What does impress, however, is the freshness and vitality: neither the gutsy adventurousness of jazz nor the extraordinary rhythmic complexity of the Karnataka participants is compromised in their blending. A consistently engaging and at times exhilarating al-

DAVE DOUGLAS

Convergence (Soul Note 121316-2) AMERICAN trumpeter Dave Douglas is, as he himself acknowledges, "a blender by nature", and this quintet album not only features unusual instrumentation - Mark Feldman's violin and Erik Friedlander's cello plus a conventional rhythm section of Drew Gress on bass and Michael Sarin on drums - but also draws on everything from tradition-Burmese music. through the blues and free jazz, to Messiaen and

Kurt Weill. The results, whether he is contributing darkly poignant trumpet to a threnody for massacred Mexican villagers, blazing through a 12-bar sequence in hard-bop mode or trading subtleties with Friedlander, are wholly original, and this is just the latest in an extraordinary sequence of brave. challenging albums from

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single of the yearn

CHRIS PARKER

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POP

POP ALBUMS

Triumph for Underworld

ARTS

POP MEMOIRS

Mick Wall tells tales

Single of the yearn

Who is Britney Spears, and why should the world be grateful that TLC are missing in action? Read on

The scene is a corridor full of schoolgirls; all knee socks and high pigtails and cheap. drippy, pink lipgloss. And they're sorrowful ob, my Lord, so sorrowful. Their friend - a scrawny blonde (well, scrawny by Los Angeles standards) has been dumped by her bloke, and she's losing it big time. "My lone-

liness is killing me." friends gather around her like baby friends deer around a wounded comrade.

Getting militant in their sorrow, the girls start walking down the corridor, bags swinging, fingers clicking. As they get nearer to us, they

MORAN smoothly fall into an arrowhead formation and slide into their dancing - furious, lost, swooning to the music. The scrawny girl keeps col-lapsing — knees to the floor. arms around her body - but still stares at us, hard and desperate, begging: "Hit me baby, one more time."

The song in question, Baby One More Time, is the greatest single since Hanson's prediamond-bright MMMBop. It's a pounding, high teen R&B drama that twists and turns with unexpected Hammer piano chords, before breaking out into a redemptively hysterical chorus. It has flown out of the shops: No 1 in its first week of release in Britain, during which it sold nearly a quarter of a mil-lion copies. It's one of those songs that people ask you if you've heard with a slight tone of awe in their voices: "Have you heard that Britney Spears single yet?" they say. "Who is she?"

Britney Spears, not yet 18, is also currently at No 1 in the American album and singles charts. She is un-

doubtedly a bit scrawny - imagine Dani Behr without her burden of tan or bosoms - but dances like a young Janet Jackson, all tai chi movements arm and robosex. And her voice is, as my more excitable little sister is wont to put

it, "the bomb". Spears is a massive Mariah Carey fan, and we all know how Mariah loves to run up and down those scales like a rat up a drainpipe. The tiny Spears can get at least three-quarters of the way up before she needs ladders.

o, given all this preco-city, it seems only right to have a chat with the chart-busting teen with the bostin' pipes.
Ring ring, Ring ring, "Hello?" The voice is thick with sleep. Hi. Is that Britney.

"Yeah." How's your day been? "Good so far," she says, in a drowsy whisper. "I've been kind of sleeping. I'm all laid up at the moment." While rehearsing her next



"God has led me everywhere," says Britney Spears. Why, she can even understand why He allowed her to break her kneecap

video in LA last week, Spears "kicked too high" and her supporting leg went from beneath her. She's dislocated her kneecap, and is confined to bed with swellings and bandages. But she's very happy about

"God has led me everywhere, and with my leg. I think it was Him giving me a sign that I needed a break." she husks. "I thank Him for it." What a polite girl.

But then, she has got a lot of lounging around to catch up on: she started auditioning for fame early, initially applying to be one of Mickey Mouse's Mousketeers at the age of eight. Unfortunately, you can't wear the sacred mouse ears until you hit II, so she got herself an agent and went to some Fame-type school in New

York, moving there when she reached 16. She sang in shopping malls for a year before getting her record deal. decade - but their career was on hold for four years because "I was so excited when I heard Baby One More Time for the first time," she says in a tiny voice, like a baby rabbit their record company wanted to give it to boy band Sive intrying to hide inside a thimble. I just knew it was going to be a hit." So did the man who wrote it incongruously for such a sassy R&B teenie hit, its gave it to Spears instead. "The day I can't decide who gets to do my songs is the day I quit," he says, very reasonably. TLC must be kicking themselves. author is Max Martin, former lead singer of Swedish heavy metal band it's Alive. It's like finding out that Amazing

In the meantime, Spears is reaping the crop of their reject-Grace was written by Vinnie

"The song was originally written for TLC." Martin says. ed magic beans.
"I had this weird dream last TLC are the R&B equivalent of the Stone Roses — their second night," she says. "I was in a mirrored elevator stuck bealbum is a masterpiece, possi-bly the greatest album of the tween floors, and I couldn't get out of it. There was a phone in there, and I was calling everybody, all my friends, saying of legal squabbles. Martin of-'I'm stuck in an elevator'. But I fered the song to them, but was really cool with it. Normally, if that happened, I'd be freaking out. But I was really stead. In a rightful huff, Marhappy in that elevator." That's tin withdrew his song and fame for you.

Britney Spears and her scar dancing schoolgirls will be on Top of the Pops tanight (BBC), 7.30pm). Baby One More Time is released by Jive Records

Wall has all the fun flavour

David Sinclair on a new book about the darker, seamier and much more interesting side of pop

t is a puzzling fact that the formian mansion is recalled most entertaining books about the world of popuprimarily because our fearless reporter manages to get a good look up her skirt as she lar music have been written by people who affect an unterly leads the way up a ladder to cynical disregard for the muher "secret space" at the top of sic itself. James Young's Nico: Songs They Never Play On The Rodio and Simon Napiera waichtower. It sounds puerile and much of it is, but in his amoral, hap-Bell's You Don't Have To Say py-go-lucky search for the new You Love Me are two that spring immediately to mind. and Mick Wall's wildly indisfree drink or expenses-paid trip Wall fearlessly and often amusingly exposes much cl the sham, mediocrity and creet account of his life as a sheer hollowness that lies just press officer for Black Sabbath beneath the surface glamour and the subsequent author of of life on the pop media/celeb-rity circuit. "You soon lose "mediocre" books (his own

word) about Ozzy Osbourne and Guns N Roses is another memoir told in a similarly dark. twisted and frequently hilarious vein.

Veins are discussed in some detail as Wall starts the book with an unpleasantly graphic de-scription of the period of his life when he was a heroin addict, although contrary to the more usuevents, this is be-

Rock bottom: Mick Wall had nothing but contempt for the hand that fed him

. . real."

fore he becomes established as a reviewer and feature writer for the heavy-metal mag Ker-

Like many junkies his emoconal insecurity is more than matched by a broad streak of vainglorious egorism. As a journalist, even more than as a press officer, his contempt for the music and musicians he writes about is absolute. The albums that he reviews are "all so unbelievably atrocious I couldn't bring myself to That this was in some way listen to more than a minute or so of each track". When he interviews Kate Bush, all he wants to do is fondle her breasts, while an encounter with Stevie Nicks in her Cali-

your fear of cliches when everything is a cliche." he reasons. Only once does he admir to feeling that there might be something more to it than this. Standing on the side of the stage at Live Aid in Philadelphia as Led Zeppelin reach the end of their historic performance of Stairway To Heaven. Wall is surprised to find himself feeling "as if there might actually be some meaning somewhere in the Universe.

The moment quickly passes • Paranoid - Black Days with Sabbath & Other Horror Stories he Mick Wall is published by Many stream of 19,99

Throw the tiddlers back

UNDERWORLD Beaucoup Fish

(JBO 1005432 £14.49)

THERE has been a significant upping of the ante in the dance world since Underworld released their last album, Second Toughest in the Infants. in 1996. Landmark albums by Prodigy, the Chemical Brothers, Fathoy Slim, Massive Attack and Roni Size have all stretched the envelope in differ-ent directions while at the same time making dance mu-sic more accessible to mainstream tastes. The temptation for Underworld to start competing on somebody else's terms must have been difficult to resist. But the trio from Essex, who spent much of this period riven by internal dissent. have kept their nerve, and Beaucoup Fish is another triumph, of sorts.

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Despite drawing on a severe ly limited palette melodically and harmonically, they make ingenious use of rhythms, sounds and fragments of verse to stitch together pulsating grooves layered in atmos-

pheres you could cut with a while Push Upstairs barges straight in with an insistent techno beat nudged along by

As an artefact Beaucoup Fish is designed to eerie perfecthroughout, tunes nonexistent, and sometimes the sketchiest of evocations is forced to mas-

NEW POP ALBUMS

knife. Cups, with its synthesized vocals and a bassline like an uncoiling spring, takes a full nine minutes to evolve before finally hitting its stride, urgent little stabs of piano. Its companion piece, Push Downstairs, finds Karl Hyde's heavily drawled and reverberated words - These are my inten-tions" - swimming out of a

tion. But meaning is elusive querade as a fully developed

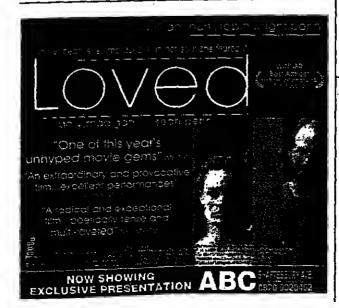
sleepy, narcotic haze.

CDs reviewed in The Times can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498

TOP TEN ALBUMS

2 (3) Talk on Corners
2 (1) I've Been Expecting You
3 (4) The Miseducation of
4 (2) You've Come a Long Way, Baby 5 (15) This is My Truth Tell Me Yours 6 (6) No Exit
7 (7) Forgives, Not Forgottes
8 (20) Life Thru a Lone
(5) Stap One
(6) Greatest Hill-Corrs (Atlantic) Robbie Williams (Chrysalis Lauryn Hill (Columbia _____Fatboy Slim (Skim) _Manic Street Preachers (Epic) Blondle (RCA/Beyond)
Corrs (Atlantic)
Robbie Williams (Chrysells)

• Figure in brackets indicates last week's position COPYRIGHT CIN



idea. Despite its sinews of rhythmic steel, this is an alburn with a heart of glass.

EVERLAST Whitey Ford Sings the Blues (Tommy Boy TBCD 1236

E12.991 ALTHOUGH Everlast (real name Erik Schrody) is best known as the frontman in House Of Pain - the Irish-fixated hip hop crew from Los Angeles who reached the Top Ten with Jump Around in 1993 the tattooed rapper actually released his first solo record as long ago as 1988. Now, with Whitey Ford Sings the Blues, he takes things to a new level, combining rootsy acoustic guitar with a hip-hop beat to create songs that encapsulate the

American experience as seen from the underside. Both the tone and delivery of the lyrics is, thankfully, a long way removed from the oafish declamations that used to be Everlast's stock-in-trade: "God forbid you ever had to walk a mile in his shoes/Cos then you really might know what it's like to sing the blues", he sings with soulful dignity on

the single, What It's Like. There are echoes of Fun Lovin' Criminals on Ends, and at his most mellow, when accompanied by a horn section

J. TUKE

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UK Top 40, Radio 1, Sunday 4pm



on 7 Years, he achieves a synthesis of old and new that recalls the world of Beck. These days, recommendations for white rap acts do not come much higher than that. GENE

Revelations (Polydor 547 119 £12.99) HAVING talked themselves up beyond all reasonable expectations. Gene are now reaping a bitter harvest. For nothing sounds quite so dated as a band that enjoyed its moment of glory primarily through the offices of the music press.

Thus, despite several ring-ing tunes and a bright, confident production by Hugh Jones. Revelotions is an al-burn floated entirely on hot air. Steve Mason's chiming guitar riffs are a hollow echo of the Britpop heyday, while Martin Rossiter's belligerent lyrics sound about as meaningful as postcard punk, and no more appealing. "Your face is my canvas/A Stanley my brush," he offers in The Police Will Never Find You. This is a good album to bear in mind the next time you come across a feature about Gay Dad.

STEVE EARLE AND THE DEL MCCOURY BAND

The Mountain (E-Squared/Grapevine GRACD252 EIS.99)
"I WAS born on this mountain

a long time ago/Before they knocked down the timber and strip-mined the coal." Thus begins the Otle track of Steve Earle's The Mountain, a delightful album which finds the Texan exploring the old-fashioned intricacies of bluegrass music with the help of the highly re-spected Del McCoury Band.

The bluegrass form, with its scuttling tempos and twin-kling melodic interplay between fiddle, banjo, mandolin and acoustic guitars, seems to bring out the best in Earle's songwriting style, comple-menong his deep Southern twang and encouraging the strong sense of narrative drive which has always been a key element of his work.

In a vintage collection of songs populated by a cast of farmers, miners, Confederate soldiers and workers on the graveyard shift, The Mountain conjures a remarkable sense of community and history passing before your eyes.

DAVID SINCLAIR

ACADEMY AWARD **NOMINATIONS**

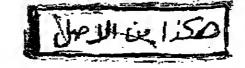
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Blair, the euro and a roasting from the press

ccording to his closest advisers. Tony Blair has counted every day that The Sun has failed to savage new Labour as a bonus: a day gained for the new Labour project. After two savagings of Blair this week by Britain's biggest-selling daily. February 21-27, 1999 may be judged by historians as the week the bonus was withdrawn.

As Anatole Kaletsky noted in The Times yesterday, the historic statement by Blair on the euro was a watershed in British politics. a day when nemesis may have stalked the Commons and when William Hague, the Conservative leader, emerged as a "Thatcher-style dark horse" instead of an "irrelevant, sacrificial placeholder". It followed Blair's worst press since he

It followed Blair's worst press since he became Prime Minister, after the rows over GM food, the Welsh leadership election, Ken Livingstone and the weekend injunction against publication of leaked extracts from the Stephen Lawrence report.

He is a "humbug", says Alan Watkins in the Independent on Sunday; a "schizo-phrenic control freak", says Andrew Rawnsley in The Observer, "Rasputin", says Simon Jenkins in The Times; "heavy-handed, illiberal and authoritarian", says Simon Heffer in the Daily Mail. Nothing compels him so much as his ever-changing and several says.

ing mirror of the press, says
Jenkins. "How will it play?"
he demands of a policy, long
before "What should it be?",
What should it be? On the
most profound issue confronting his Government, whether
Britain should sign up to monetary union, Blair has now

declared his policy. How did it play? Not very well. On Monday The Sun devoted ed its entire front page to another of its 72-point questions: "Is this the most arrogant Cabinet in history?" Although

new Labour thought the press had given it a hard time, it declared, the truth was that they had had an easy ride. It added, ominously: "The easy ride might now be coming to an end."

It returned to the attack on Wednesday, on this occasion drawing a parallel between Blair and the complacency of Stanley Baldwin in the interwar years. "Baldwin went from revered to reviled, a figure of intense hatred for the working classes," it said. "Bear that in mind, Mr



Pounding away: The Sun's criticism

Blair. You don't have to be in office to have your reputation destroyed. You could easily end up the most hated Prime Minister ever." Tories were cheered by a cartoon showing William Hague. only months ago a sick parrot, outside No 10 with a Sun placard announcing "Hague saves us from euro".

Blair's performance had been a shabby ahuse of power, declared the Daily Mail. The press was anything hut squared. The Daily Telegraph warned Blair, and The Times devoted what must have been the longest leading article in its history, over more than half the leader page, on the five tests that needed to be passed before serious debate could begin. National newspapers were evenly split on Wednesday.

with five supporting Blair —
The Mirror. Express. Daily
Star, Independent and FT — and five in
the sceptic camp — The Sun, Mail. Tinies.
Telegraph and Guardian. But the sceptic
newspapers have nearly 20 million read-

ers a day against 12 million for Blair.

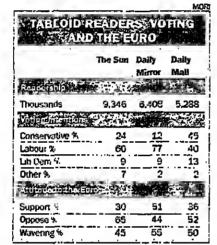
One result for Blair, as Hugo Young, a euro enthusiast, pointed out in *The Guardian*, is that he is no longer bulliable by the "phobo-sceptic" editors who believed that he was a supplicant for their favours: "By disallowing him any further

benefit of the doubt, they withdraw their uffer and lose their leverage." So can Blair now use his popularity to overcome the hostility of five powerful newspapers and win a referendum? His task could seem daunting. When more than 121.000 Sun readers voted in a "You the Jury" phonein on Wednesday, they delivered a 15-1 verdict for the pound. Even MORI's most recent and reliable poll for The Times, published today, delivers a 2-1 verdict against the euro among Sun readers (see Table).

et MORI also shows that Blair has all to play for. At least half the readers of all five sceptic newspapers — some ten million potential voters — are still wavering and capable of being swayed either for or against the euro.

Nor do readers necessarily follow the opinions of their newspapers. According to MORI (some on admittedly ony samples), only 5 per cent of Guardian readers, 15 per cent of Times and Telegraph, 28 per cent of Mail and 37 per cent of Sun readers unequivocally oppose the euro. And if the PM plays the Trust-me-l'm-Tony Blair-1'm-new-Labour card, three of the eurosceptic papers. The Guardian (71-5), Sun (60-24) and The Times (47-35), have a majority of Labour-voting readers.

With a decision still three years away, Blair is gambline his repuration on Britain joining the euro. But Blair gambles only when he thinks he will win, and today's MORI poll shows that seven in ten Britons believe they or their children will be using the euro within the next decade.



Join the homeboys in blue

ven before the Stephen Lawrence affair blew up in its face, the Metropolitan Police was finding it hard to attract ethnic minority recruits. Today, 32 years after Norwell Roberts became the Met's first black constable, just 3 per cent of the force's 20.000 officers are black or Asian. Although numbers have doubled since 1993 when Sir Paul Condon became Commissioner, they are still well short of the 18 per cent target recently set by the Home Secretary.

Successive charm offensives and PR campaigns in ethnic minority newspapers such as The Voice, New Nation and Eastern Eye have been counteracted by a litany of stories in the same publications about deaths in custon dy, stop and search, and attempts — often by black officers — to sue the police.

officers — to sue the police.

Next week the Met will make its boldest move yet when it signs a contract with a black record producer who says that he can persuade more black people to become recruits by showing the police at their worst in a hard-hitting rap video and CD.

"The idea is to join it and make it better." says Charles Bailey. a self-styled "black Saatchi" who will write, direct, produce and star in the video, which he hopes will be shown in cinemas.

He plans to film in Brixton using police helicopters, customised cars and all the paraphernalia of an East Coast rap shoot. More surprisingly, he will also include foolage of notorious death-in-custody cases and Sir Paul Condon's initial denials of institutional racism, to show that he is not ducking any issues.

"The video tells the story of

"The video tells the story of a young man who is arrested for a murder he did not commit and is forced to solve it using his contacts on the street," Bailey says, "You're going to see police knocking on doors, talking to people, trying to get evidence, then A record producer aims to boost ethnic minority police recruitment with a rap video and CD, says **Henry Bonsu**



Charles Bailey says his street-level message will work

you're going to see me and my gang, going to the same people and getting the evidence. What I'm trying to show is that if you had more black police, you would have a better network, better approach, better communication. If I was a policeman. I could have looked at Siephen

Lawrence and seen that he was a straight, honest boy.

But they couldn't."

Bob Cox, a Scotland Yard spokesman, says that the force is excited about having a new tool in its PR campaign. "We have tried lots of advertising, market research and stuff in the ethnic news-

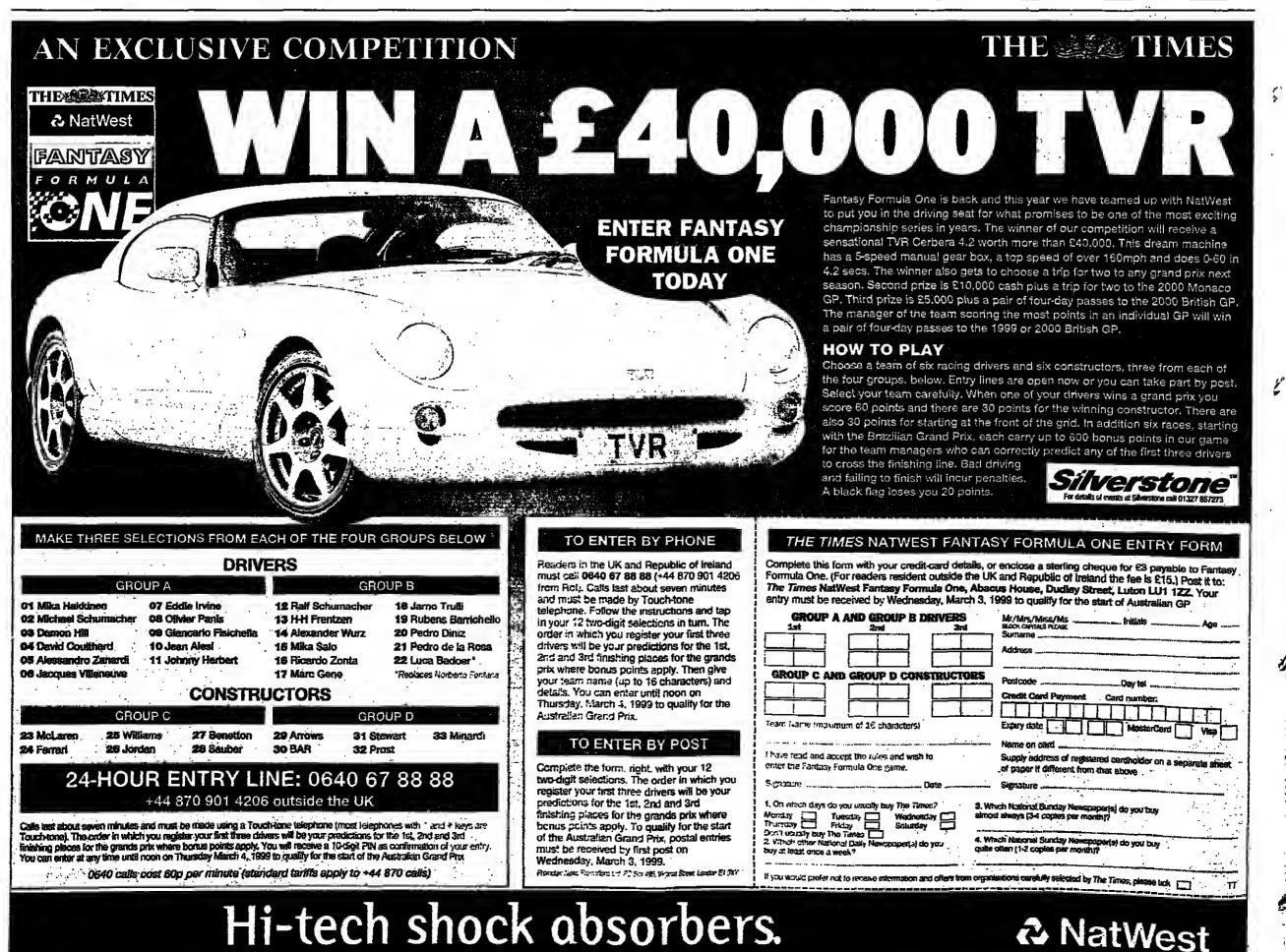
papers and magazines, and slowly the numbers have crept up. But this was an innovative idea from someone who is from the black community, and who are we to say that it won't work?"

The Met's radical move follows that of other uniformed services such as the Armed Forces, which have consistently had trouble attracting ethnic minority recruits. Last year, the Household Cavalry sent a mounted troop through Brixton, providing much amusement for local residents. Another headlinegrabbing stunt was a poster campaign which showed a black Army captain, Felix Datson, in Lord Kitchener pose, telling the community "Your country needs you".

But Abi Adeniran of Hothouse market research, who monitors trends in the black community, doubts that the Met's initiative will work. The fundamental problem with the police is that they are marketing something with features it does not have, it is not worth them selling themselves until they get their house in order."

Sinon de Banya, who masterminded the Stephen Lawrence media campaign, was similarly sceptical. "What difference will bringing out a video make? Until we see an improvement in the force, better solving of black crime, a cutting-down of stop and search and of deaths in custody, people are going to say why should I join?"."

However, Bailey points to the great response he received last May when he made a record encouraging alienated young people lo vote in the referendum for a London mayor. "As a black guy, I know what buttons lo press to grab the attention of black people. The Met has been bold in giving me the contract. I guarantee you won't have seen anything like this before," he says.



NatWest MasterCard, the preferred card of Jordan Grand Prix.

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If I were head of the BBC

Raymond Snoddy would cut bureaucracy, sack consultants and support the creatives if he were made DG

efore people such as Greg Dyke of Pearson Television and Mark Byford of the BBC World Service get too Mar ahead in the race for the job of Director-General of the BBC it is time to submit my formal application.

There is, of course, a large field jostling for attention even before Sir John Birt's job is advertised. Broad-casters such as David Elstein, Chief-Executive of Channel 5, and Alan Yentob, the BBC Director of Television, are considering adding their hats to the ring. But all the declared candidates, however able, have a tired feel. They have been trotting around the three-ring circus of British broadcasting for years, dreaming all the time of becoming Director-General of the BBC.

What is needed is a fresh name and a new approach. Hidebound thinkers might consider that never having run anything would be a dis-advantage — but that didn't stop Tony Blair. And if there is one les-son to be learnt from a lifetime in journalism, it is the ability to cut quickly through the flannel and get to the heart of the matter.

It is obvious what needs to be done at the BBC. In part it is a matter of changing its tone and culture but there are also immediate, practical things to be done to ensure that the corporation remains the preeminent public service broadcaster well into the next century.

Sir John has already reformed the BBC, but where in the past there was not enough management, too little financial information and inadequate strategic thinking, there is now too much. The place is drowning in policy options and perpetual

It is time to value, cherish and empower programme-makers. Above all they need to be protected from yet more structural change. The more dubious efforts of the past could even be reversed. The corporate ditually making programmes would be too disruptive to unpick now. But what should be treated with increasingly benign neglect is the dogma of "bi-medialism", the notion that television and radio are the same and that the foot soldiers are interchangeable. It is not so.

Obviously it is sensible to encourage a wide range of skills and 10 break down barriers between crafts. but the differences should be respected too. It would cost virtually nothing to make programme-makers who are usually more creative, more intelligent and better qualified academically than their bosses, to feel

more appreciated. The bureaucracy of the BBC could be tackled at a stroke by decreeing that all meetings are held on Fridays. when people are eager to get home for the weekend, leaving the rest of the week free for more productive work. To avoid excessive rigidity. departments would be able to call up to two extraordinary meetings a

week for genuine emergencies. Programme-makers will, however, need more money to devote to the mainstream

grammes on the established terrestrial networks where the really competitive battles will be fought. But money will be a particularly tricky subject for the new Director-General. Under the five-year licence settlement agreed with Virginia Bottomley, the BBC got a lift-up in the licence fee to help to pay for digital



Main picture, Ray Snoddy. Clockwise from top: the contenders - Richard Eyre, Mark Byford, Greg Dyke, Alan Yentob and David Elstein

adventures. The new DG will walk straight into a relative downturn in the licence fee. The Culture Secretary. Chris Smith, has set up a committee under the economist Gavyn Davies to look at ways of supple-

Hold

free up

menting the licence fee. The options are already clear. You can, and should, encourage the BBC to intensify to a limited extent its commercial activitieswithout changing the nameetings ture of the organisation. You can argue for a only on licence fee that rises ahead of the retail price index but it is unlikely Fridays to that politically you could add much more than t

per cent. The most attractive option, and one that the the week Davies Committee will look at, is a supplementary ticence for digitat.

say of £35 a year. This would be as dynamic as was the extra charge for colour television. The more people move to digital, the more money the BBC gcts. The problem is that viewers are unlikely to value additional channels as much as they did the change to colour. Such a licence, unless a marginal sum, is likely to

hinder the development of digital.

As a prudent financial planner as most journalists are at heart - 1 will stand on a licence fee linked to retail prices, which after all brings the corporation more than £2 billion a year. Money will have to be saved and an unsentimental view taken of

the activities of those who do not con-

tribute directly to the programme-Luckily there is plenty of scope. The overbloated policy unit would be the first place to start. I have never come across an organisation of any kind anywhere in the world with so many people involved in strategy and planning. Dozens of jobs and millions of pounds could be saved, and it would be double gain: switching off the flow of words

ating for the organisation. Many more millions could be saved immediately by thanking McKinsey for their efforts over the past years and restricting the use of consultants to the provision of discrect expertise not already available in the Corporation.

and numbers would be highly liber-

There are also those who think that the press and publicity operation could benefit from streamlin-One potential candidate for a

short back and sides is the £200 million being spent on the digital revolu-tion. The scale of the initiative is an outrage, and BBC programme-making budgets are being unnecessarily and dangerously squeezed to pay for

a form of digital imperialism. It is important that the BBC should be part of the digital future, so keep things simple and spend £100 million instead of £200 million of licence payers' money on: the future. It might help BBCI to improve its rat-

BBC Online has worked and should be encouraged despite the free-rider problem - licence payers funding an . excellent Internet news service for the citizens of California. It is cost-effective and it works because millions are hooked up

to the Internet and can use it. The same is not true of digital television. So scale back News 24 and provide a genuine alternative which already exists - BBC World - supplemented by more domestic coverage as the market develops. The same applies to BBC Choice. The real additional choice would be to provide a channel that majors on showing the best of BBC1 and BBC2 the day after it goes out to give viewers an extra chance to see the many excellent programmes they have missed. Digital is important.

Until you get in there with a really good finance man at your side, like those at Granada, it is

impossible to quantify the savings, but you can Scale back just smen sary spending. decisions News 24 would also have to be takalternative

already

exists

en on the programme front, Radio 4 listening figures may have recovered from their low point but my theory is not so much that people are fall-ing in love with the changes, but that they recognise they have nowhere else to go for highquality speech radio.

To start the process going. Yesterday in Parliament will return to Tix day and FM on day one. I am equally happy to give an unequivocal undertaking that One Man und His Dog make an immediate return to

And when I find the fortysomething responsible for axeing it . . .

Regulating the regulators

Media and Sport Secretary, is planning to set up a regulators' forum to try to end the squabbling and overlapping responsibilities of the bodies involved in regulating broadcasting and communications. In particular. Mr Smith wants to see greater co-operation between bodles such as the Independent Television Commission, the Office of Fair Trading and Oftel, the tele-communications regulator.

Senior executives on such bodies already meet, but Mr Smith wants a more formal forum to courdinate the approach to the regu-lation of content and compension where responsibilities overlap. Such a move could happen quickty as no legislation is required.

How communications should he regulated has become a key issue as technological convergence blurs the boundaries between broadcasting, computers and telecommunications. A recent government Green Paper on the subject took a cautious approach and stayed well away from the idea of setting up a single regulatory body for all of communications. It decided that the present structures could cope for some time vet with the changes that flow from developments such as digital television and the Internet. The creation of a regulators' fo-

hris Smith, the Culture, rum could be an important first step in getting greater co-operation between bodies which have obvious interests in defending their own territory. At least five regulatory bodies, apart from the BBC Board of Governors, have some interest in the regulation of some aspect of broadcasting policy - the ITC, the Radio Authority, the OFL. Oftel and the Broadcasting Standards Commission.

The Culture Secretary has also been asked to consider a review of how radio frequencies are used in Britain, to see whether a tairer balance could be achieved between the BBC and the commercial sector. The appeal has come from Tony Stoller, the chief executive of the Radio Authority, who believes that the BBC is being wasteful with its use of radio frequencies. The authority believes that there is room for new services without reducing the reach of

existing BBC networks. It is likely that Mr Smith will now consider whether such a review of radio spectrum - which could have considerable significance for the commercial sector - is necessary. Commercial radie has been growing fast in Britain, but apart from digital, there is an increasing shortage of frequencies for new services.

RAYMOND SNODDY

The unlikely crusader

Bill Frost reveals a little-known side to Paul Dacre, who made the Lawrence case front-page news

hen Paul Ducre's Daily Mail first broke the Stephen Lawrence story on its front page, many of its hlue-rinsed readers must have been asionished. Traditionally, the Mail has been identified with hammering scroungers, hum-bugs, "loony left" councils, gay ac-

nivists and bugus asylum-seekers. But his calculated gamble has paid off on the grand scale; even liberals who accused him of subservience to the Tory cause have been contounded - without Dacre's flair and persistence, the murder of Stephen Lawrence-would have remained just another unsolved crime, a paragraph

or two in a local newspaper. The genesis of the campaign is worth examination. So, too, are the Mail circulation figures. which continued to rise as its campaign gathered momentum.

As is well known now, Dacre and Stephen's father Neville were friends. Mr Lawrence, a painter and decorator, regularly worked at the Editor's home in Kent. Less well documented is Dacre's feathing of racism. As important an element in the equation is Dacre's cose for a good story and his determination to name the guilty and the incompetent.

Thirty years ago, as editor of Leeds University's Union News. he showed the same mix of educated poputism and principle which now characterises the Minil. Then, too, he directed his cumpaigning aeal against racism. One of his early campaigns was a three-week investigation of the problems faced by black families. A front-page story headlined "Shock Results: Union News Poll" revealed that "only 52 per cent of Leeds students disagree with Enoch Powell's views on in-

tegration". A unsigned comment column declared: "Students can play an important role in breaking down the barriers that so obviously exist between the coloured and white communities in this city ... they should be the ones who want to overcome the difficulties of integration . . . it is a question of car-

Other campaigns followed on behalf of the homeless, the mentally handicapped. homosexuals

and cannabis users. Under the banner headline "Marijuana", a second-year student raved about the delights of intoxication. "We talk and it is so funny...you cannot stop laughing. Colours and sounds are more distinct. Everybody is alive, it is all

so simple. Another student made the case for the legalisation of cannabis: "Drugs of all sorts are an individual's ontion. Society has some right to ask why, but in no way to pass judgment - no man has a right to force his opinion on another."

nder his own byline, Dacre was also to fight on behalf of "welfare state misfits". The headline above one feature reads "They are classified as mentally subnormal, but they are still very human beings": the subject maner may be different but it is classic Daily Mail-speak. His articles were to reach a wider readership when local newspapers and radio stations joined the campaign to close a cramped and

squalid rehabilitation unit. Three decades on, neither real nor determination to embrace an ostensioly unpopular cause has deserted Dacre. Against all the odds. he has put the fight against racism at the top of the political agenda. As one Mail insider said tast night: "He has always enjoyed rocking the boat and he cannot

abide injustice. But, best of all, he knows a bloody good story when he sees it."



Reality: One Man and His Dog was axed 18 months ago

HERE'S the truth about One Man and His Dog. It was axed 18 months ago by Mark "Terminator" Thompson, long before his replacement as BBC2 Controller, Jane Root, arrived. Thompson, now running the BBC's regions says the programme's roakers didn't help their case by insisting that it had to continue as a 35-minute

show - which is hard to schedule. His predecessor, urbanite Michael Jackson, now chief executive of Channel 4, didn't like One Man either, and stockpiled lots of programmes, so no one noticed anything was up until The Daily Telegraph started blustering. Now that Sky has entered the bidding. BBC Choice is keen to keep it in the family. Ewe've been put straight.

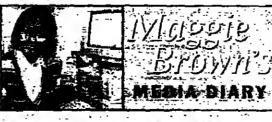
■ WAR has been averted at today's What The Papers Say press awards. Granada executives spotted the potential for fisticuffs when they studied the scating plan at the Savoy Hotel. Paul Routledge, The Mirror's irascible political commentator, had been placed on the same table as Euan MacAskill of The Guardian --

A case of dog eats dog

"stole" Routledge's scoop about Peter Mandelson's loan. On the other side of MacAskill was Charlie Whelan, former press officer to the Chancellor, which would have made for a lively exchange of views. Swift action was taken, however, and.

MacAskill has been placed with Guardian pals David Hencke and Seamus Milne on a table at the other end of the room. A Granada source says: "We thought discretion the better part of valour at the Savoy."

■ THE Daily Mail's triumph over Stephen Lawrence isn't the only thing driving up sales. With The Mail on Sunday, it is running a double Lucky Wallet promotion, promising buyers two free gifts a week. So far I have won only once. A holiday one of the four journalists who in Florence? Nah. My prize is a free



. jam doughnut! To collect the doughnut I must make a trip to Greggs Bakery; there isn't one near me. I call it Unlucky Wallets.

■SAD to report that ITV's draina reconstruction, Stephen Lawrence: The True Story, was watched by a disappointing 4.7 million, dropping to 3.7 million, ft was hustled on to the screen last week thanks to the current macho mood of competition when viewers would have found in more relevant this week. All part of ITV's dismal public relations record. hauled before MPs, on Wednesday to explain the refusal to broadcast on digital satellite. Richard Evre, ITV Network chief executive, and John Hardie marketing director. are now searching for a super spin-doctor.

■ THE appointment of Heidrick & Struggles, American headhunters, to conduct a global search for Sir John Birt's replacement is causing grief at rival British firm Goddard Kay Rogers, whose Jill Carrick last year secured Ruperi Gavin from BT, as chief executive for the BBC's commercial wing, is it just a front? The BBC vice chairman, Baroness Young of Old Scone, has been ticked off for saying the next Director-General should come from within, Greg Dyke, cur-

rently ranned to a plutocratic crisp

cies his chances, though Marjorie Scardino, chief executive of Pearson and Dyke's boss, was overheard saving: "He'd love the job, but would he want the work that goes with it?" Applications to Yugoslav-born headhunter Milena Djurdjevic, at H & S's office, 100 Piccadilly, London, W1.

after a huliday in Barbados, still fan-

GLENDA BAILEY, Editor of US Marie Claire, is said to be spirring tacks at the discovery that British Murie Claire has photographed Monica Lewinsky for its April cover.

Bailey will be aghast to learn that the scoop was pulled off by the British mag's acting editor. Elsa McAlonan - soon to be Editor at Woman's Journal - thanks to astute remarks that she made to The Times about Lewinsky being her ideal cover girl. On reading the request. Michael

O'Mara: publisher of Andrew Morton's book on Lewinsky, phoned McAlonan, who suggested using Patrick Demarchelier for the shoot. Suitably flattered. Lewinsky agreed. Which shows that a strong nose for a story is not a dead art in the grandiose world of magazines.

mediatimes

Is the nation ready for Trevor at 6.30?

ext week, at 10.30pm on Friday, March 5, televi-sion will see the end of an era. Trevor McDonholding back the tears having shuffled his papers for the last time on News at Ten. After 32 years, ITN's flagship programme will bow out. McDonald is moved by its pass-

ing. "You must feel some emotion about it, not only for yourself but for the countless people here who have worked on it." be says in his small, spartan office at ITN, "I shall try not to shed a tear as there were too many over Diana and we don't want any more."

Inevitably, the highly public and protracted death throes of News at Ten - and the years of uncertainty surrounding its future - have been unsettling for McDonald. Now that a decision has been made he admits to feeling immense relief. At the same time, as a compulsive worrier riddled with insecurities, he is plagued with self-doubt about the new "6.30" — as be calls The ITV Evening News that will rise from the ashes of News at Ten on the Monday after its demise. "I just hope that my performance matches up to expecta-

"A lot of people have been involved with the new set, new design and months of input to get it on air. Everyone has done the work. There's only one person to mess it up, and that's me. You want to make sure you don't let Leaning forward, and with a ner-

vous edge to his voice, McDonald lacks the confidence he shows in front of the camera. He says the greatest challenge of the Evening News is the change of time and audience. Both demand new think-

mg.

"At 10pm people are sitting back ready to relax into watching the news," he says. "I suspect that at 6.30pm they will be grappling with domestic problems: trying to

News at Ten will end next week but Trevor McDonald has his work cut out. Interview by Paul Nathanson

bludgeon their children into doing homework, keeping them away from video machines and thinking about bathtime and getting them

"Grabbing their attention and telling the news in an arresting way will be at a premium. The pace will have to be faster, and I wouldn't be surprised if there were more short items as we pay more attention to people's attention

However, McDonald, who has been presenting News at Ten since

will not tamper with the four sacred pillars that have supported the programme in the past: authority, accessibility, balance and, most importantly, accu-

The old staples, too - the bongs and the quirky "And finally ..." sign-off story — will remain. His own favourite story. be reveals, was in the early days when Reggie Bosanquet reported that firemen had been called out by a lady to rescue her cat stuck up in a tree. Mission accomplished, the lady was so grateful that she invited the crew

"And on their way out they ran over the cat," McDonald says gleefully. I'm not anti-cat. I have noth-mg against those wonderful animals, but it is extraordinarily funny. I'm not sure we could get away with that now. It might offend cat-lovers and the RSPCA, and our switchboard would be inundated with calls of protest."

Despite McDonald's obvious loyalty to ITN, having spent more

than 25 years there since joining as a reporter in 1973, he says that be would have quit had News at Ten

been moved to 6.30pm without the provision of the 11pm bulletin and without the offer of anchoring the 60 Minutes programme, the current affairs magazine set to start in April. "It is well known that I was considering my options but I stayed because of ITV's assur-ances," he says.

However, he says, should there be any trivialising of the Evening News, he would go. But isn't the whole move just a cynical bid to

boost ratings? Why else would reruns of James Bond films be set to rampage over the old News at "It's possible to

he disrespectful about ratings," McDonald replies defensively, "but if you are, you're not in the real world. We are in the ratings game. People do relevision, be it drama, entertainment or news. They do everything to get audiences. You can't ignore the rat-ings. I know exactly what the BBC. Channel 4 and Channel 5 get every

McDonald's greatest challenge will be 60 Minutes, with its four or five items. It is a programme that he has long admired in America, where it is an institution. He sees it as broader than Newsnight and therefore not taking on Paxman and Wark.

60 Minutes will feature exceptional stories taken from the mainstream news agenda - items lending themselves to longer slots than the news allows, stories behind the

EDUCATION

story and "the dramatic bit which has never been told".

With its big-name interviews, business and human interest, 60 Minutes will be a cocktail of the old Sunday Times Insight pages. World in Action and Dispatches. and might go out midweek, possi-hly in the 10 o'clock slot vacated by ITN, he says.

McDonald is also busy with his new chat show, Trevor McDonald Meets, indulging his love of interviewing — "the finest art in our business". He hopes it will transfer from ITV2 to ITV and has so far en-joyed talking to the Duchess of York ('very companionable'), Ken Livingstone ('very witty') and Len-ny Henry, who chided him for committing the cardinal sin of inter-

rupting.

It is nice not to be pounding peo-ple with questions in search of news points," he says, "and to let people relax and talk in a more civilised way where wit is not ruled

Yet McDonald's main focus as the Evening News anchorman - will be far from witty. As he states in his foreword to ITN's book, News at Ten — a Celebration of 32 Years of Television News, he aims to "speak for the persecuted and dispossessed".

"If we all do our job in the news properly, people will never again be able to say, as they did of the Holocaust, We didn't know. "We can't make the Prime Minis-

ter act on what we show, or make President Clinton listen as we show bodies in the snow in Kosovo or people being butchered to death in Rwanda. Governments might say these things are not true, but they can't claim they did not know about them. I'll be proud if we can do things so people never again make that excuse."

 News At Ten —a Celebration of 32 Years of Television News is published on March 3 (Boxtree,



Trevor McDonald: "I just hope that my performance on the 6.30 matches up to expectations"

EDUCATION

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Wagadon's days of woe

Its main women's mag is in trouble and hurting other titles. Just where did Wagadon go wrong, asks **Carol Midgley**

or a company that invented the British style magazine, the house of Wagadon is look-ing distinctly unfashionable this year. The Face, the magazine which was the last word in Eighties cool, has shown year-on-year losses of 29 per cent, according to the latest ABC figures. Arena, its younger but equally hip brother, has declined by nearly 30 per cent.

But it is the fate of Frank, Wagadon's venture into the cut-throat female market, that is causing the glummest of faces at the company's offices in Clerkenwell.

The magazine, launched in September 1997 to appeal to independent, intelligent women of 25-35, appears to be in nosedive. Its monthly circulation is down to 37,233 — a 10.4 per

cent drop, year on year.

Nick Logan, the company's charismatic editorial director, is said to be dismayed by a series of high-profile departures, including Sarah Jane Hoare, the former creative director, Dylan Jones, one-time Wagadon group editor, and Charles Gant, once managing editor of The Face and now with Heat.

Tina Gaudoin, the launch Editor, resigned less than a year after the magazine's birth, saying she wanted to spend more time with her family. agadon insiders, however, say she did not like the mainstream direction in which the magazine was being taken. Logan, once the man with the Midas touch, last year saw Deluce wagauon's ill-rated men's magazine fold, and Red, the Emap magazine aimed at "mid-youth" women, trounce Frank (Red's sales are hover-

ing at a healthy 173,000, although this represents a 9 per cent drop). Despite 40 per cent of Wagadon being owned by Condé Nast, media experts are now wondering how long Frank can survive without the life-sup port machine of a giant company such as Emap or IPC to sustain it financial-



The struggling Wagadon stable - morale is said to be low

the product.

at Frank would float around in Joseph suits. "The different camps eyed each other very suspiciously at first," said an insider. "It was a total culture shock."

Tim Kirkman, the head of press for the Eighties and haven't tapped into the media buying group Carat, said the industry was largely pessimistic the modern Zeitgeist. I think Nick still expects people to work for love in about Frank's future, although a Others say that Frank has never miraculous revival still wasn't out of the question. sat comfortably in the bohemian

Face environment. While Face and "If it continues to show this sort of by through fallow times. Many staff at Arena journalists would be wearing decline it's hard to see how it can be Wagadon, where morale is said to be tatty jeans and trainers, the women around for much longer," he said.

IPC closes magazines if they are selling fewer than 100,000 - look at what happened to Options. If Wagadon wants to compete, it will have to operate more like Emap or IPC and that means huge investment in

They are lovely people working at Wagadon but it is still a small and quite parochial company. They don't have the back-up of Emap-type organ-

*Frank is not a cheap magazine to produce and they were always going

Time to cry freedom

An era without censorship is dawning for Nigeria's media, says Elizabeth Blunt

he invitation was tempting: three weeks in Nigeria, ich had been all but closed to foreign journalists because of the late General Sani Abacha's restrictive policies. The British Government, keen to support Niger-ia's transition to democracy, was sponsoring a series of events for Nigerian journal-ists and had asked the BBC to organise them.

My team was there in the lead-up to last weekend's parliamentary elections to give nine workshops across Nigeria. Each team included an experienced broadcaster, plus someone with training experience. I am a former West Africa corres-pondent for the BBC

and covered my first Nigerian election in 1979. World The Service Training Trust, in charge of the project.

told us: "Don't even think of it as training." Workshops or colloquiums would be better. It was thought that Nigerian journalists, tradi-

tionally among

Only six out of 20 monthly titles registered year-on-year increases and neither Frank nor Red has excited what was at first hoped to be an unex-

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plored slice of the marketplace.

Marcelle D'Argy Smith abruptly
parted company with IPC's woman's
Journal after figures showed that it was down 13.9 per cent. She blamed lack of investment and IPC's eagerness to see immediate results.

to have a struggle to make it pay its

way."

Many past and present staff at

Frank have watched the progress of

Red with envy. Some £3 million was

spent on four years of focus groups be-

fore Red was launched in a blaze of

publicity. Its sales are not brilliant

but they are holding up at a very diffi-

cult time for the women's market.

A media expert said: "When people of the calibre of D'Argy Smith are removed, it shows there is no room at all for sentimentality in magazines at the moment. It's a brutal place and the brutal truth is that Frank probably won't survive, which is a shame but you can't get by these days on just being trendy."

The lid has been

lifted and old taboos are being tackled

come if offered "training".

As it turned out, a colloquium was a fine idea. Nige-rians love to talk politics; the problem was getting a word in edgeways. But they were also hungry for training, aware of how isolated and restricted their professional lives had become under a repressive military government. After years of censorship the lid has been lifted. At first I winced with anxiety when I heard their views on the misdeeds of General

Abacha. They even tackled subjects considered taboo for far longer: tribalism and

Africa's best, would not

regionalism, even secession. But the knowledge and professional skills to turn all his into lively, informative coverage have been eroded through lack of use and the the economic crisis. Nigerian journalists attend un sities that have few books, no periodicals. They cannot recall what Nigeria was like before military government and have not travelled

abroad. We brought tapes of TV election coverage in Britain and India; it was a reve-lation for them that in other democracies candidates not belonging to a governmentapproved party can stand.

One big change has been the establishment of private radio and television stations, and one of our most interesting sessions compared two television news bulletins from the same night. work NTA led on a speech by the head of state to a lawyers' dinner. The private sta-tion led with an exclusive about villagers stealing petrol from a leaking pipeline.

NTA's problem was not

that it led with General Ab-

dulsalami Abubakar's speech, but that the journalists had become so numbed by automatically reporting every-thing he said that they missed the significance of an announcement on judicial independence. The piece was little more than a list of the digni-

taries present. with shots of people dining. They soon came up with ideas on better ways to do the story.

A cracking story with striking pictures was the pri-vate station's lead. The snag was that the journalists involved admitted that the pictures were of another incident. Only in the face of heavy peer pressure did they concede that the pictures were misleading to the point of dishonesty.

We welcomed as speakers politicians, trade unionists and leading Nigerian jour-nalists, and watched them being subjected to our par-ticipants' newly honed interviewing techniques. When we had finished, one journalist said: "We didn't know what to expect. But you refurbished our minds." These new skills will no doubt serve the Nigerian media well in tomorrow's presidential elections.

 Elizabeth Blunt is the Planning Editor at BBC World Service News.

Andrex puppy caught in adland war

Kimberly-Clark's decision to hand its £90 million worldwide advertising for paper tissues to J. Walter Thompson. Marketing Week reports. One of the brands affected is Andrex, which JWT handled until it was replaced by FCB Worldwide two years ago. Now FCB's president Harry Reid says K-C's decision has caused him "sadness, anger and disillusionment and claims that JWT has won the account back by price-cutting. Tam angry because K-C is giving the account to an agency it fired a couple of years ago . . . and that has discounted to a

patrol". Now the beast may be put down.

"Wagadon was a great place to work then and The Face was fantastically successful — but there were about ten people on staff and they

Now Wagadon is in a completely different marketplace. The Nineties

are extremely tough and aggressive.

But sometimes it is as if we are still in

way, but times have chariged."

worked for love, not money.

YET ANOTHER glossy garden magazine is to invade an increasingly crowded market. Press Gazette reports that GE Magazines will launch the bi-monthly Garden Inspira-tions next week, ahead of the planned New Eden from IPC. Gardens Illustrated and The English Garden are already established, as well as a host of "how-to" mags. Becca Watson, publisher, says Gar-

den Inspirations will be aimed primarily at women.

■ FIGURES for cinema advertising spend for 1998 will show a rise to £97 million, up ten per cent on 1997, according

sociation quoted in Media Week. United Distillers and Vintners was.

the largest advertiser, led by a £3.1 million campaign for Smirnoff vodka. The biggest increase came in the corporate sector, increasing its spend by 270 per cent.

THE LAUNCH in April of individual savings accounts (Isas) will spark a £100 million ad blitz from 300 financial services companies, says Marketing, quoting the Media agency Carat. About a quarter will be spent on TV spots, the rest on press ads and mailshots. The Inland Revenue will spend



GING FACES: Melinda Messenger to host new comedy game show. Can We Still Be Friends? for Channel 5 (Broadeast). Tony Combes, head of public affairs for Safeway: moves to Monsanto to head corporate, public and media relations in wake of GM food scare: Granada Media Group seeks new corporate affairs director as Chris Hopson moves to senior management role; Kirsty Macmaster quits as Eu-ropean financial PR head for

Edelman Worldwide, com-

Week). BBC Worldwide poaches Paul Gillooly, head of multimedia content for BT, as its new head of global marketing for entertainment: Mick Buckley, vice-president of ad sales with TNT and the Cartoon network, to be UK managing director of Turner Entertain-

ment Networks.

NESS: Former building society relaunch to replace Ogilvy & Mather, its agency for 35 years; M & C Saatchi expected to get a slice of Sainsbury's business; Goodyear plans to replace Mc-Cann-Erickson on its \$15 million European ad account (Campaign). Pretty Polly hires

bras; Sky drops M & C Saatchi and takes its £60 million ad account in-house (Marketing).

MICHAEL LEAPMAN

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media watch

in the headlines, thanks to the dismissal of James Brown as Editor of GQ. Even without such publicity, the circulation of men's lifestyle titles has been buoy-ant. In the six months to the end of December, total circulation increased by

casualties. Wagadon fared particularly badly - its titles Arena and Face both lost nearly 30 per cent of sales, while Deluce closed after only eight months, at the end of 1998. Also hadly hit was Emap's Sky, which lost 29.1 per cent of its circulation, a loss of 54,000 sales. The most popular "laddish" titles,

EPUTY CH

SUB-EDIT

6.1 per cent, year on year, to 2.7 million. Nevertheless, there have been some

however, maintained their leads. Emap's FHM, IPC's Loaded and Dennis's Maxim all increased their circula-

tion. FHM, the overall market leader with 751,493 sales, climbed by more than 107,000 year on year. Maxim also piled on an impressive 29.2 per cent. Condé Nast's GQ achieved only a 2 per cent rise, although March's issue is expected to sell like hot cakes, thanks to the notoriety attributed to it through the departure of James Brown.

The women's monthly magazine market was less dramatic. Although the total circulation of the monthlies increased by 4.2 per cent, proportional losses and gains were generally smaller and the circulation of the sector's market leader, G & J's Prima, was substantially less than the men's top title. FHM. Prima's closest rivals were Attic Futura's Sugar and NatMag's Cosmopolitan. Again, Condé Nast's titles did

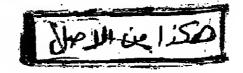
TITLE	PUBLISHING COMPANY	Jul 97- Dec 97	Jal 98- Dec 98	% Ch
Arena -	Wagadon	86,922	60,949	-29.9
Bizarre	John Brown Publishing	71,782	95,167	32.6
Esquire	National Magazine Co.	106,203	108,284	2.0
Face	Wagadon	100,744	71,381	-29.1
PHM .	EMAP	644,110	751,493	16.7
Focus	Gruner & Jahr	85,462	68,762	-19.5
GO	Condé Nast	129,294	132,185	22
	IPC	1-11,567	to/ 316	3.6
Loaded	EMAP	192,206	180,141	6.3
Max Power	Dennis Publishing	249,096	321.947	29.2
Maxim	Rodale Press	225.126	283.359	25.9
Men's Health	EMAP	186,961	132,480	-29.1
Sky	Future Publishing	33,730	44.651	-37A
13	Tuesday to the same of the sam	2 553 203	2.708.117	6.1
TOTAL		1 1	The last course and the last course	

not fare so well. Both Tatler and Vanity Fair lost sales, and Vogue increased its circulation by just 0.2 per cent. Waga-don's Frank had no year-on-year comparison as it launched only in Septem-ber 1997, but compared with its previous period the title dropped 10.4 per

SouthBank's Marie Claire gained the most sales within the sector, achieving nearly 30,000 extra year on year.

 MediaTel's online media informa tion and analysis service is accessed via uk (0171-439 7575)

IIITE	PUBLISHING COMPANY	Jul 97- Dec 97	Jul 98- Dec 98	% Ch
19	IPC	170,718	173,244	15
Company	National Magazine Co.	284,092	290,402	2.2
Cosmopolitan	National Magazine Co.	461.116	476,288	3.3
Elie	EMAP .	218,077	200,436	-8.1
Essectials	JPC	272,685	296,904	8.9
Frank	Wagadon	n/a	37,233	n/a
Harpers & Quee	n National Magazine Co.	93,545	93,863	0.3
Looks	EMAP	115,479	136,340	18.1
Marie Claire	IRC:	415.550	445,289	7.2
Minx	EMAP	160,088	150,708	-5.9
New Woman	EMAP	268,449	261,681	25
Prima	Gruner & Jahr	540,727	510,142	-5.7
Red	EMAP	n/a	173,081	π⁄a.
She	National Magazine Co.	241,460	226,079	-6.4
Sugar	Attic Futtura	485,944	451,696	7.0
Tatler	Conde Nast	90,346	85,673	-5.2
Venity Fair	Condé Nast	85,454	80,933	53
Vogue	. Condé Nast	202,028	202,321	0.1
Women's Journa	I SPC	125.546	110,762	8.9
TOTAL -		4,227,302	4,403,075	4.2



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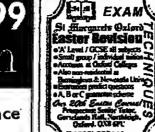
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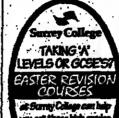
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EDUCATION



Helen Owen with her son Edmund: "There's no point in sending a child somewhere if he can't take the pace. You have to do what's right for your child"

Surviving the entrance exam

For seven-year-olds, and especially their parents, pressure to succeed can be unendurable, says Stephanie Cooper

says Mrs Bidakowska, "but I

Mrs Bidakowska is worried

tried not to pass it on to her.

about the contrast between the

child's usual school work and the entrance exam. "The levels are completely different," she says: "When Annabel's

look at their books and their

work is much more advanced.

So for the past year Annabel

has had a tutor and for the

past few weeks she has done

extra maths, reasoning, writ-

ing, spelling, two hours with

the intor each week and prac-

ton, is an experienced teacher.

She believes that preparation

for the entrance exam should

be fun and should make chil-

dren feel confident. During

each session she offers plenty

of praise and, at the end, her

parting phrase is: "Do you be-lieve you can do this?" To

Her tutor, Emma Middle-

tice interviews."

Prep School, Dulwich College and St Dunstan's, in South London. During the autumn term leading up to the en-trance exam in January, he had been under pressure to perform well at Herne Hill,

his prep school. The problem, says his mother, Helen, was that Ed wasn't interested. He couldn't cope because of the stress and responded by becoming amazingly stubborn. He would say "I don't want to do my school work' and he was highly unco-These schools want the brightest, the most sociable, with no

educational problems at all." Entrance exams are tough on parents, too. Dinner parties abound with tales of desperate tactics: one mother sent her son for aromatherapy to relax him before a prep school exam. Even those who have adopted a more conventional approach of intensive tutoring and a sustained charm offen-

help their children to cope with the pressure? Chris and Helen Owen considered other options for Edmund. They were prepared to move from Camberwell to Sevenoaks in Kent so that he could try for a school there. But first they took him to see an educational psychologist, who measured his IQ at 120.

"It was a question of Ed's attitude, not his ability," says Mrs Owen. So she started to take him out of school on Friday afternoons. "The psychologist explained that when I was working with Ed, I was giving him attention, which gave him more confidence. Then I persuaded St Dunstan's to see Ed at his own school. He thought they were just coming to say hello, and was calm about it. They thought he was charming and offered him a place." Edmund has now settled in at St Dunstan's and is doing

Chris and Helen have two

year ago, Edmund sive directed at the head teachOwen, aged seven, failed to get a place racking.

So how can parents best younger children to pass through the system; has their experience taught them anything? Mrs Owen says: "It was thing? Mrs Owen says: "It was unrealistic, unfair, for Edmund to be part of the rat race. There's no point in sending a child somewhere if he can't take the pace. You have to do what's right for your child."

> r Derek Phillips, an educational psychologist, believes that examination stress can cause the greatest problems of behaviour, such as bed-wetting, nightmares and violent tantrums. If the parents feel tense, it is easy for. the tension to be transmitted to the child. He adds: "Parents think something is wrong with the child, but it's usually an external force; almost always the child is reacting to the stress of the situation. Sometimes the child revolts. Parents need to reduce the pressure and allow their children to work at their own pace, with plenty of positive reinforcement."

> Bidakowska's Barbara daughter Annabel, aged eight,

goes to a state primary school in South London. This week which the child replies "Yes". "I believe you can, too," says Emma, giving the child a gold Annabel took the entrance examination for Wimbledon High School. "I was tense,"

Schools sensitive to the pressures on children and parents can also help. At Portsmouth Grammar School staff try to defuse the intense atmosphere created by anxious parents. Richard Mathrick, head-

master of Lower School, says: The entrance exam is more friends, who go to private schools, come to the house, I stressful for the parents than the children because it is competitive. We go out of our way to ensure that it is not too traumatic. A video of The Lion King is on for them when they arrive, then the parents say goodbye and leave them in our tender care. The interview is held a week before the exam. The children like to talk about

their interests and hobbies; it's not too intense." The author is a former deputy

Stop the Baker days

arents hate them. Children don't un-derstand them. Even teachers have come to reshut down our schools for five "Baker days" a year? Schools are open far too

little as it is. No other public service throws its customers out on to the streets at 3pm or 3.15pm. Our shopping centres are awash with mooching children for almost half the daylight hours. Teachers actually teach for only half the year, so why do we bow to the teaching unions and close down our schools for another whole week?

The days were conceded in 1987 by Kenneth Baker who, like all Tory Secretaries of State before him, wanted to buy peace. He got teachers back to work by offering them less work, cunningly called "non-con-tact time". Five days a year were designated as training days (an admission that teachers were not previously properly trained) and justified by the need to prepare

for the national curriculum. Almost at once the abuse began. Museum visits became retraining. "Maths in Islamic art" and "Hats & Headgear" were two one-day courses offered by the Victoria and Albert Mu-

Gravesend Grammar School in Kent went further. In 1996 it used a Baker day for a day trip to Boulogne, on what its head called "a team-building ex-ercise to restore morale" after an Ofsted inspection. No doubt they had a nice

lunch, anyway.

There is a cost to all this. Baker days cost schools £137 million last year. But the real price is paid by children - a week's schooling is lost, often in the vital winter and spring terms. It is time to get our schools fully open again. We should be increasing the hours. Education is a service in desper-

hope for a generation enter-ing a world in which there may be only highly skilled work available, it is our hul-wark against a wave of illit-eracy and innumeracy.

And what do we do? We don't just over-regulate it, we actually restrict its sup-ply. We limit teaching time. we throw the children out at 3pm; we close our schools for long holidays; and just when our children need more schooling, werob them of another week;

in term-time.

A Labour Government. allegedly radical, supposedly ready to tackle restrictive practices with its huge majority, should have been the one to face up to the teaching unions. Instead, we get more centralisation and more hureaucracy.

Take the education actioo zones: not one has altered the teachers' standard terms and conditions, which was the key to the success of similar American experiments in Milwaukee and Cleveland.

als on pay: head teachers will still be allowed to reward performance only according to strict national guidelines. Anybody who thinks that this document is about local initiative should wade through the 123 technical paragraphs about upper salary spines, consolidated steps, threshold assessments and all the rest of it.

Local, it is not.
If our 24,000 schools were really run by their heads, wouldn't just one of them come up with a more professional system of inservice training? Give heads the £137 million and the choice, and let's see them make the difference.

MICHAEL FALLON.

• The author is Conservative MP for Sevenoaks.

Taking a trip too far?

Excursions should involve learning, not just fun, argues Susan Elkin

~=== 4

s it time we rethought the purpose of school excursions? A skiing trip can cost parents hundreds of pounds. And what about the schools that whisk their charges off to Disneyland Paris - or Alton Towers, Legoland, Thorpe Park or Blackpool? Such theme parks have, inevi-tably, leapt on the bandwagon by producing education packs and "materials" to justify it all. School trips are big busi-

ness. But is the money spent by parents in inverse proportion to the educational benefit? In 1958 when I was a pupil at a London County Council junior school, my name was drawn to go on a school journey to the Isle of Wight for two weeks. Throughout the preceding winter we had systematic prepara-tory after-school lessons from the teacher in charge. I had a clear mental map of the island before I even stepped off the ferry, not to mention knowing that Queen Victoria had died at Osborne House and why The Needles are so-called. We went out daily to see and do things, and much of that "cross-curricular" learning is with me still. It was a model of what a school trip should be.

Today schools seem to be vying to see which can offer its pupils the most glamorous "holiday", even though there is much to be learnt close by



All play and no work: pupils are used to outings where the emphasis is not educational

without having to go any-where exotic, especially for younger children. Why take pupils canoeing in Sweden if you can do it for less than half the price on the Wye? Why go to Barcelona to look at art if you haven't explored the art resources in the nearest city?

If schools looked more often at cheaper options, perhaps more children could afford to be included. The typical school ski trip is too expensive for a pupil whose family is on a low, or even average, income. On the other hand, if the family can afford it, they might just as well take the child them-

If a school does take pupils to faraway places, then it should squeeze every possible

drop of learning into the experience — as Wells Cathedral School in Somerset is doing. In March, ten 16 and 17-yearolds are to go to the state of Meghalaya in north India, where they will explore uncharted caves. Teachers are not spoon-feeding - the pupils are making their own arrange-

They have prepared a press release — a far cry from doing it as a sterile part of a media studies course - and are organising their own visas and flights. They also have to raise £1,000 each in sponsorship.
Louise LeFlufy, who is 16

and lives in Yeovil, has per-

phony Orchestra to play a concert in her home town in support of her school's Meg-

halaya project
Louise says: "I organised
the tickets and did the administrative work, and a schoolfriend played a bassoon concerto with the orchestra as part of the concert."

Anything that develops such entrepreneurial skills is surely

a fine learning experience. : Any parent should ask one key question when trying to as-sess the value of a school trip: "What will my child learn from taking part?" There is bound to be an entertainment factor, too, but let it not obscure the main purpose of anything to which a school puts its





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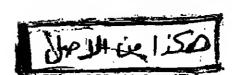
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Lee V; Cho Shu Ki S; Chol Chook Ee C; Choi Hlu Ping J; Chol Ho Yin; Chol Hok Ming H; Chol Kai Wai; Chol Kin Fai A; Chol Mei Ling M; Chol Mei Yee; Chol Siu Kei; Chol Tsul Ping; Chol Wai Man; Chol Yi Kwong; Chong Chi Kwan; Chong Chia Sen P; Chong Hin Ang H; Chong Ken Yun E; Chong Man Ching; Chong Man Leung; Chong Sau Wan; Chong Wai Peno;

Chong Sau Wan; Chong Wai Peng: Chong Wai Yu: Chong Wing Shing

W: Chong Yin Feng: Choo Ching Poh A: Choo Chuan Tat P: Choo-Shee-Nam L U: Choong Siat May J

F C; Choong Toh Voon A; Chor Ka Wal; Chou Ka Ping; Chow Chi Wa; Chow Ching W; Chow Hang

Chung: Chow Hok Man; Chow Kai Rwan; Chow Man Fung. Chow Wai Leung W; Chow Yuk Lan; Chowdhury AT A; Chowdhury ES;

Choy Kum Chiong: Choy Weng Hoe; Choy Wing Yan; Choy Ying Kel; Christian I G; Chrysoullotou

O A: Chu L: Chu Chol Kuen: Chu

Yue M; Chu Yuen Kal; Chua Bee

Yean; Chua Hong Ling; Chua How Khiang; Chua Hui Cheng; Chua

Kim Fong E: Chua Lee Yee: Chua

Pau Fung L. Chua Siew Yoon: Chua Wei Meng: Chua Zee Quin T;

Chuah Kong Yoon: Chue Ling Scah: Chuk Lai Ngo J: Chumroo B H: Chung S Y: Chung Chee Hoe:

Chung Fung Joke; Chung Kwai Ying; Chung Lee Woon; Chung Pol Ching M; Chung Shin Man M C; Chung Sook Ching; Chung Wal Kit; Chung Yin Wong; Chung Yuen Man; Churchill B; Chute RA;

Chutoo M D; Chutoo N B; Clancy J M; Clapham A M; Clark C A; Clark

M; Clapham A M; Clark C A; Clark H L; Clark K A; Clark R; Clarke A G;

Clarke C: Clarke P A: Clarke L V:

Clarke M D; Clarke N C; Clarke S P;

Cleanthous M; Cleugh S; Clifford S M; Cobden P D M; Cockton D M;

Coe R F; Coker D S; Coker D D M; Cole A R; Cole J R; Coleman S A;

Coleman W J; Coll A; Collins S C;

Commins C M; Condon I; Conneil V; Connelly G; Contreras S K; Cook K R; Cook S A; Cooke A J; Cooke I F;

Cooke LJ; Coombes J; Coombs LJ; Cooper D; Cooper KA; Cooper N F; Cooper P P N; Copas C P; Cope M R; Copeland G; Copeman R A; Cor-

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S; Cummins M; Cunningham I; Cunningham S S; Curim Baccus S

M; Curran A P; Cutajar D; Czarna

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DA: Dalchan E: Dalton D M; Dan-lei M M; Daniel T J; Danish Ahmed Siddiqui: Dankwa Y; Dar-by J W; Darmell K J; Darwin P J;

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Dell C J. Demissie Tadele Mulatu:

Dempsey C R; Derjacques T V; Dervan M S; Desai R T; Desai P A; De-

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Ella A V: Elkin S: Elllott B M; Ell-

Off J A W: Eills A D: Eilliston C: Eog Lay Hoong: Eng Swee Lim; Eng Tzu Wee K; Englefield J C: Enright

M T; Esdale K: Eshonkulov R:

F acchiano D; Faherty M T; Fair-

M S; Fan Cheng Mei L Fan Zhong Shan; Fang Hool See; Fanta I; Fanonnie A J; Fardad E; Faria F A S; Farmer C R; Farrisworth B E; Par-rell M R J; Farrell S C; Farrow P E;

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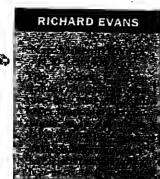
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Wong Seng Wee; Wong Shan Ty;
Wong Sheow Yuen W; Wong Siew
Leng: Wong Siew Mei; Wong Siew Ling. Wong Siu Ki. Wong Siu Lan; Wong Siu Ling. Wong Sin Fing. Wong So Yi C; Wong Soh Shyan; Wong Sooi Peng. Wong Sook Ping; Wong Syn Wait A: Wong Sie Wang Wong Syn Wait A: Wong Sie Wang Sie W wong syn wait a: wong sze wan;
wong Tak Wing: Wong Ting:
wong Tsz Kit; Wong Wal Chung;
Wong Wa! Fong D; Wong Wa!
Hong R; Wong Wa! Hung: Wong
Wal Kwan D; Wong Wa! Kwong:
Wong Wa! Ling; Wong Wa! Shuen
E; Wong Wa! Yan; Wong Wa! Ying;
Wong Wa! Yan; Wong Wa! Ying;
Wong Wa! Yan; Wong Wa! Ying; wong Wey Wey: Wong Wing Yee W:
Wong Yee Fan: Wong Yee Ling:
Wong Yee Mel: Wong YI Ting:
Wong Yake Fan; Wong York Ying
E: Wong Yaen Yue: Wong Yuk Wong Yoke Fan; Wong York Ying E: Wong Yuen Yue; Wong Yuk Kwan; Wonnacott M W; Woo Hul Sze A; Woo Kok Liang; Woo Wal Man; Wood D J; Wood M; Woods N V; Woods S: Woodward-Thwaites L C: Woozeerally F H; Worwood W J; Wright A R; Wright C J; Wright J M; Wright J T; Wright D A; Wu Kwok Chung; Wu Wal Yo; Wu Wel Lu; Wun Yoke Lin C; Wycherley C M; Wyid J A; Wyszomlerski R S.

Tong Llong: Lim Wah Khoon: Lim

Double Thriller keeps to the script

FEW walks of sporting life confound expectations so mischievously as racing, but at Win-canton yesterday Double Thriller could devise no way of eluding his superiority in the Jim Ford Challenge Cup. The Martell Grand National favourite could have incorporated a lap of honour and still routed his three rivals.

It was as though an auditori-um had been filled merely by the opportunity to watch the conductor take the rostrum. At no stage did he threaten to lose his footing and tumble into the pit, his young rider's principal problem being to keep Double Thriller from becoming too



Joe Tizzard, just 18, will assume a rather sterner responsibility next time he rides Double Thriller, who seeks to keep the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup in the West Country after Cool Dawn's success last year. That horse popped up at 25-1 and Tizzard will be under proportionately more pressure, with Double Thriller quoted at 8-1 by the sponsor — as indeed he is by William Hill, though the latter's decision to cut him from 10-1 on the basis of yesterday's performance is hard to fathom. The same firm

trimmed him to 7-1 for Aintree. Double Thriller will certainly look the part in the Cheltenham paddock. Just as when he had made his debut for Paul Nicholls here last month, physically he was a different cali-



Double Thriller sails over the last on his way to a comfortable victory in the Jim Ford Challenge Cup Chase at Wincanton yesterday

bre of animal. This time, he verged on the boisterous, swaying his hips aggressively along

Double Thriller was in front at the first and, though a little nonderous at the same fence on the next circuit, spent the rest of the race perfunctorily extending his lead. The least embarrassed of his rivals, Wayward King, probably did not

stay the trip. "I kept slapping him down the neck to wake him up," Tizzard said. "His ears were flapping about and he wasn't really concentrating. He'd be better off with a bit of competi-

tion, but he won't be short of Teeton Mill during their huntthat at Cheltenham."

While yesterday's excursion did little to sharpen his competitive edge for Florida Pearl and Teeton Mill. at least Nicholls retains a fresh horse. "I can keep dreaming and you lot can keep guessing," he told the winner's enclosure huddle. 'He would be better off with a bit of company and, being such a relentless galloper. with a fast-run race. But he hasn't had a hard time and for a hig horse he puts himself

right, doesn't he? He has done a lot of hunting." Double Thriller's defeat of

er chasing days, at Cheltenham last spring, still raises as many questions as it answers. Axminster 100 Kingwell Hur-It has been suggested that the grey, newly recruited by Venetia Williams, was unfit but Nicholls pointed out that Double

different proposition. "Reg had enormous problems getting him fit last season," he said. "The horse drove a nail into his foot in January. If either was unfit, I'd say it was this one. Obviously, Venetia has improved Teeton

BARRY HILLS saddled the

2,000th Flat winner of his dis-

Thriller — then trained by his

sephiagenarian owner. Reg

Wilkins - was now an equally

Mill, but I'd like to think this horse has improved as well." The other Festival trial, the

dle, also fell to an odds-on favourite, though Grey Shot all but drained his reserves of courage to hang on by 24 lengths from Midnight Leg-end. With Fataliste setting off at a ludicrous pace, Jamie Os-borne sensibly waited until two out before taking it up. In the process he made the worst of several mistakes and he wandered, exhausted, on the run-in. He remains 25-1 for the Smurfit Champion Hurdle.

"We didn't see the best of

Hills rolls on to 2,000 wins

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

him today." Osborne confirmed. "He struggled in the tacky ground."

There was a time when people in this part of the country, asked to name the strapping local chaser that might one day win a Gold Cup, would have answered: "Copper Boy". Unhappily, Bob Buckler, his trainer, disclosed that the best horse he has trained will not race again, having suffered another leg injury on his reappearance at Newbury. Even with the best horses, jump racing is seldom as straightforward as Double Thriller made

stretched clear in the home straight to win by nine lengths

from Billichang. Hills, who had returned to

his South Bank stables to

"We are having a bottle of

champagne and we are a bit

tearful. It is a great achieve-

ment and I have had a lot of

good people around me who

winner counts, whatever they are, and now we have got to

get on with the next lot."

have been very loyal Every

Hills's assistant, former

jump jockey Kevin Mooney.

who has been with bim since

1991, was on duty at the track.

2,000th winner, Noble Heir.

at Ascot, and oow I have also

saddled the guv nor's 2.000th

"I rode Fulke Walwyn's

KEMPTON PARK

3.55 Far Dawn 4.30 Milloroft Riviera 5.00 HARDLY (nap)

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.55 FAR DAWN.

GOING: GOOD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.20 CORINTHIAN HUNTERS CHASE

Carl Evans: 2.20 Copper Thistle.

2.20 Tinotops

(£1.982: 3m) (10 runners) | 101 | 11-12 | TRIDTOPS 13 | D.F.S.S) | (R Targett) Mrs. 8 Victory 9-12-7 | Mrs. 8 Victory (3) | TRIS | 123-33-31 | COPPER THISTIE | 12P (D.F.S) (B Humocett) Mrs. 6 Refey 11-12-4 | Mr. 8 Humotesti (7) | 102 | 24/2-2 | LDVAL NOTE 11 (D.G.S.) (R Anderest) S Fentires 11-12-4 | Mr. 8 Humotesti (7) | 103 | 24/2-2 | LDVAL NOTE 11 (D.G.S.) (R Anderest) S Fentires 11-12-4 | Mrs. 8 Hr. 8 Humotesti (7) | 104 | Mrs. 9 | 104 | Mrs. 8 Humotesti (8) | Mrs. 8 Philosophen 10-12-0 | Mrs. 8 Fentires 54 | 105 | Mrs. 8 Humotesti (7) | 105 | 414-R3 | CHRSS | 27P (D.F.S.) (L) Webser) Mrs. L Alma 6-12-0 | Mrs. 14 | D.M. 16 | Mrs. 16 | Mrs.

BETTING: 7-4 Copper Thesite, 5-2 Tientops, 7-1 Loyal Mote, 8-1 King Ol Clare, 10-1 Chism, Political Sam, 16-1 Top Di Petroe, 20-1 others.

TINOTOPS has a good record in hunter chases and can dely top whight

2.55 CLUBHOUSE NOVICES HURDLE



BETTING, 7-2 Bluestann, 6-2 Doc Ryan's, Strong Calamet, 5-1 Coh Sho No, 11-2 Percy Parlueper, 12-1 Motel 14-1 Audaces, St Samuel, 20-1 others 1998: KNICHTSBRIDGE SCOT 7-10-12 M Williamson (6-5 tav) Miss V Williams 7 can

Bluesham 7 (x) 3 d ot 9 to Nockcky in handleap hurdle at Haydock (2m 4f, son). Con 9 no Nockcky in handleap hurdle at Haydock (2m 4f, son). Con 9 no Nockcky in handleap hurdle at Haydock (2m 4f, son). Con 9 no Nockcky in handleap hurdle at Haydock (2m 4f, son). Con 9 no Nockchy in handleap hurdle at Handleap hurdleap hurdleap

MOTET was far from disgraced in a bol novice at Newbury and can get oil the mari

3.25 MANOR NOVICES CHASE

(£4,182: 3m) (7 runners)

BETTING: 7-4 Chestul Aspect, 2-1 (Gng's Banker, 5-1 Emeratel Statement, 6-1 Strong Paladén, 10-1 Sweet Loc 25-1 Native Player, 50-1 Laura Logs. 1998: NEARLY AN EYE 7-11-5 1 J Morphy (4-7 last) P Nicholts 3 ran

CHEERFUL ASPECT is improving last own feaces and will take all the beating

3.55 dine at the jubilee club hurdle (showcase handicap) (£3,680; 2m 5f) (13 numers)

4210 - ABOO HOM 345 (S) (Cammac Ptc) N Pipe 5-12-0 - A P MeCoy 115
402 - 4-1P13 CALL MY GUEST 28F (F.S.S) (D & Mrs J Chee) R Peacock 9-11-9 _M A Fitzperate 110
403 - 1P19-2 SCORMG PEDIGREE 14 (CD.F.S) (Washord Rearn Prins) J Mindins 7-11-8 _A Thomson 84
404 - 62P-33 FAR DAWN 57 (F.S) (9 Weigand) Mrs A Perrot 0-11-18 _ C Medical [125]
405 - 1008-4 MMeC 0 THREE 36 (F.S.S) (Bidefood Tool Lith Mrs S Wellsms 10-11-1 _J Cullety 77
406 - 203233 AMAZE 95 (F.S.) (Looly Kestmer Phillips) Lady Herries 10-10-10 _W Streams (7) 103
407 - 613-45 LORD YORK 20 (S) (6 Opdes) (F Day 7-10-10 _ J Debtons 11-13 _ J Debtons 10-10-10 _ J Debtons 11-13 _ J Debtons 11-13 _ J Debtons 10-10-10 _ J Debtons 11-13 _ J

Long handlese: Fit-Col 9-12, Royal Piper 0-7, Danno King 8-9. BETTANCE 5-2 Scoring Pedigree, 9-2 Lord York, 11-2 Call My Goest, 5-1 Aboo Hoor, 8-1 Americ, 10-1 For Dawn 12-1 Go Go Hoory, 14-1 offices.

1998: ELA AGAPI MOU 5-11-13 R Durwoody (15-8) G.L. Moore S can

Abou Hom. 25 17th of 18 to French Holly in nowher herdle grate 1 at Clebration (2n 51, poorl), previously best Old Roune 5 and the process of the holly in nowher herdle grate 1 at Clebration (2n 51, poorl), previously best Old Roune 18 in 19-mmes molden handle at Haydock (2n 61, said). Call My Guest 51 3rd of 8 to "Indictor in handleap handle at Rosen (2n 11 110y), good to said), previously best George Distingham neck in 11-mmes handleap handle at Mondowy (2m 51, pood to said). Far Domes 331 4th of 8 to Jack My to Namidicap handle at Hondowy (2m 51, pood to said). Far Domes 331 4th of 8 to Jack My to Namidicap handle at Prothed (2n 10 110yd, beavy). Mine C Times 22 4th of 1 is West Dowel to translate prothe at Excellent Cam 11 to Net Dowel at Myndson (2m 11 box 7) Armazo 1.3 3rd of 9 to Antiquan Flyer in handleap handle at Cam 6 110yd, beavy). Dines 380 9th of 12 is Dowk Romance in handleap handle at Southern (2m 61 110yd, beavy). Dines 380 9th of 12 is Dowk Romance in handleap handle at Southern (2m 61 110yd, poorl), Excellent Cam 61 110yd, to Holl in Saucy in handleap based at Cam 61 110yd, beavy). Indican beaten a firstence text of 1 to Holl in Saucy in handleap by Houre 181 3rd of 13 to Arciac Chaoter to handleap handle at Dower (2m 71, pood). During King beaten a distance 9th of 11 to Herve 6ell Deamoud in handleap handle at Dower (2m 71, pood), heavy).

FAR DAWN, names-up in this race last year, will appreciate this return to good ground

4.30 PORTLANE HANDICAP CHASE

(£5,038: 2m 4f 110yd) (7 runners)

501 /F15F- BOARDROOM SPRIFFLE 307 (BF.D.F.G.S) (A Weller) J Gillard 8-12-0 L Aspell 502 U3-6F1 PEACE LOTIO 56 (D.G.S) (Sr Priter & Lady Elebrops) Mrs. O Nature 9-11-11 _J Calloty 123
503 371-3 WS. 6096 108 (BF.D.G.S) (D. Milne) J On O -11-10 _J T J Murphy 8
504 352/P6 SOUND REVEALLE 14 (E.G.S) (Are Seberassis) Mass H Maight 11-11-8 _J Osborne 95
505 U3-124 MRLLCROFT REVERA 77 (BF.CD.F.G) (J Cartor) R Aloss D 11-1 _A TROMONE 95
506 16-009 PLEMBER 847 S7 (D.F.S) (W.M. & E ROBINS IN Herosteron 8-10-10 _M A PROgenit 6
507 4/1-P4 NOT MY LINE 18 (S.S) (W Gasdwell) W Caudwell 10-10-7 __Mr N Ferbly (7) 63 BETTING: 2-1 Peace Lord, 9-4 West King, 4-1 Boardroom Studie, 11-2 MERcott Rivera, 14-1 Plunder Bay, 16-1 Sound Reveals, 25-1 Roll My Line.

1998: MILLCROFT RIVERA ?-10-9 A Thomason (6-5 tax) 8 Alber 5 can

MELCROFT RIVIERA should go close if fully 81 after a two-morals break

5.00 KEMPTON PARK 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICES HURDLE (£2,892; 2m) (12 runners)

BETTIME: 2-1 Handly, 11-4 Leaburn, 9-2 Star Of Denganton, 8-1 Russing Water, 10-1 Borotown Lord, Proper Printing, 16-1 Gare HML, 25-1 others 1998: ANDANOTO 7-11-0 R Durawoody (10-11 lav) Lady Herries 10 ran

Hearthy beat Boro Soverango 1-4 in 13-russes notice hardle at Wincardon Com, solid with Proper Principles (4th beats of); 281-310 and Running Walland at Stratistic Cam 110yd, heart of); 381-5th Borossova Land 4-1 at of 12 to Deep C ON a in novete hurdle at Stratistic Cam 110yd, hearty). Leadure unsested ricer an novee hurdle at Bangor Cam 11, pood to 201; previously 141-2nd of 8 to Sambitiess an opeyer hardle at Lauren (2m 31 110yd, hearty). Southelows Lad Cat 13th of 18 to All Camp an novice haudle at Donatester (2m 110yd, good). Sart O'Dengarenous beates a distance last of 8 to Promiseed Profile to ast hurd flat (prade 2) at Cheepstov Cam 110yd, soid), previously 14-2 and of 3 to Prosty Caryon in national hardle flat are 2 Cheepstov Cam 110yd, good to soil. Tudor (10ng 35) 10in of 18 to Articulos Lad in novice hordle at Waywork (2m, good) Pesprolag 90 15th of 19 to Holt Invades in national hard flat care at Waywork (2m, good) Pesprolag 90 15th of 19 to Holt Invades in automat hard flat care at Waywork (2m, good) with the same at Waywork (2m, good) Pesprolag 90 15th of 20 to Perk Alert to national flow Rail race at Waywork (2m, good).

HARDLY put up a game performance al Wiocanton and should follow up

KEMPTON SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mass V Willerms 3 winners from 8 numers, 37.5%, R Alner, 14 from 41, 34.1%, J King, 3 from 10, 30 %, Ms A Persta, 3 from 11, 27.3%, Ledy Herries, 3 from 12, 25 0%, J Old, 3 from 13, 23 1%; C Mann, 12, 25 0%, J Old, 3 from 13, 23 1%; C Mann, 12, 25 0%, J Old, 3 from 13, 23 1%; C Mann, 14, 25 0%, J Old, 3 from 13, 23 1%; C Mann, 15, 25 0%, J Old, 3 from 13, 23 1%; C Mann, 15, 25 0%, J Old, 3 from 13, 23 1%; C Mann, 15, 25 0%, J Old, 3 from 13, 23 1%; C Mann, 15, 25 0%, J Old, 3 from 13, 23 1%; C Mann, 15, 25 0%, J Old, 3 from 13, 23 1%; C Mann, 15, 25 0%, J Old, 3 from 13, 23 1%; C Mann, 15, 25 0%, J Old, 3 from 13, 23 1%; C Mann, 15, 25 0%, J Old, 3 from JOCKEYS: A Triomion, 18 winners from 54 rides, 39 3%; J Osborne, 19 from 59, 32.2%, T J Murphy, 5 from 22, 22.7%; R Durwood, 19 from 67, 21 8%, M A Fitzgerald, 25 from 119, 21.2%, C Dewallyn, 9 from 57, 15 8%, A P McCoy, 12 from 95, 12.6%, C Maude, 4 from 32, 12.5%



MARKETRASEN

2.00 Broadnard. 2.30 Treasure Again. 3.05 Luke Warm, 3.35 Cinder Hills, 4.10 Sad Mad Bad. 4.40 Adaramann, 5.10 African Sun.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES)

2.00 EBF NH MOVICES HURDLE (QUALIFIER) (£3,116: 2m 3f 110yd) (16 runners)

-831 BACK ON THE LASH 49 (5) MESS V WINE 3-1 Back (in The Lash, 7-2 Broadward, 7-1 Chaice Cut, Whedive, 0-1 Ballyeration Boy, Fam Wild, 10-1 Byaket, 12-1 offams.

 $2.30\,\mathrm{erg}$ & lucy papworth handicap chase (£4,174: 3m 4f 110yd) (11)

3-1 Tom's River, 7-2 Prime Scample, 8-1 Mister Trick, Treasure Agent, 7-1 Sister Ros-zz, 8-1 Solio Gent, 10-1 Carbillon, 14-1 others.

3.05 TOTE HANDICAP CHASE

(£6,873: 2m 4f) (4)

6-4 Cantucal Rule, 2-1 Nosaro, 9-4 Luie Warm, 16-1 Cyborg De Beautal. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Southwell: 2.10 Malfa. 2.45 Bravacco. 3.45 Burrinto, Dim Ots. 4.20 Carrie Pooter, Metody River 3.35 SPONSORSHIP CLUB LAUNCH JUVENILE MOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £3,136: 2m 1) 110yd) (12) 1 16F0 ANOTHER BEYELED 11 67 A.P. Junet 11-4 ____ B. Cathord 48
2 1221 SOLOMOOD CAVALER 10 (5) Miss V Wilson's 11-4 ____ R. Supple _____ R. Supple _____ R. Supple _____ R. Supple ____ R. Supple _____ R. Supple ______ R. Supple _______ R. Supple ________ R. Supple _________ R. Supple ________ R. Supple __________ R. Supple _______________ R. Supple ________________ R. Supple _____________________

R.Yang BOLD 146F I. Lungo 10-12 R. Supple Sensitive J. J. Countered 10-12 R. Supple Sensitive J. J. Countered 10-12 R. Supple Sensitive J. J. Countered 10-12 R. Supple Sensitive J. J. Supple Sensitive J. Supple Sensitive J. J. Supple Sensitive J. Su 4? Geodescol Caralia, 5-1 Institutesy, 12-1 Another Bereind, Cinder 1915, 14-1 celes.

4.10 BURTON MEETING ON SUNDAY NOVICES CHASE (£4,027: 2m 4f) (5)

3 462 (CEN TO THE LAST 697 (D.S) M Haarmard 7-11-5 .8 Harding 4 2254 (CEY GRIP 13 (D.S) Mas S Shibb (D-71-5 ... R Williamson (S) 5 000F MADEWIST SAM 10 P Resourced 7-11-5 ... B Graties (S) 1-0 Sad Mad Bad, 5-1 Key Grb, 16-1 Keen to The Last, 33-1 others.

4.40 TGI IT'S FRIDAY HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,010: 2m 5f 110yd) (10)

1 3540 MAMESEN 13 (G.S) J FitzSands 11-11-10 ___ 2 9025 My SHENNOOAH 24 (BF,G,S) J Howard John 4-1 Aeste Bob, 5-1 Presta, Lord Pal, D-1 My Stementock, Happy Miretal, 8-1 others

5.10 FEBRUARY HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,954: 2m 1f 110yd) (10)

7-2 Get The Point, Cap B B You Can, 6-1 Fair And Faircy, Brancepeth Belle, 7-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSERS: M Pips, 22 winners from 92 rumons, 23,9%, P Beautooni, 9 from 40, 22,5%; Mrs P Sty. 4 kgm 18, 22,2%; J Spearing, 3 from 15, 20,9%, 1 Extently, 7 kmm 35, 18 4%, Mrs M Roueley, 19 krom 98, 19 4%. JOCKEYS: G Bradley, 5 witners from 13 rides, 38.5%; A Derroser, 3 from 9.33.3%; N Williamson, 18 from 75, 21.3%; R Paraget, 5 from 27, 18.5%; W Marston, 10 from 54, 18.5%; L Wyer, 14 from 77, 18.2%.

Best season: 113 winners in 1990. watch the race, said: "It is a Lambourn trainer was unable **BIG-RACE WINNERS** milestone and I am very 1,000 Guineas: Enstone Spark (1978). proud of it. We are all delightto be on hand to celebrate the ed, thrilled and pleased.

tinguished training career when Summer Bounty First trainer's Boonce: 1969. craised to success at Lingfield Park yesterday. However, the achievement as be had a prior appointment with his dentist. Hills, who first took out a li-

cence to train in 1969 after winning enough to set himself up by backing Frankincense to win the previous year's Lin-coln Handicap, has won the 1,000 Guineas (Enstone (1972), Hawaiian Sound (1978), Gla-cial Storm (1988), Blue Stag (1980). Spark), 2,000 Guineas (Tap On Wood). St Leger (Moonax). Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (Rheingold) and four Irish successes can have come as classics in his 30 years with a

Only the two Epsom clas-

SOUTHWELL

1.10 Miss All Alone, 1.40 Golden Lyric, 2.10 Tom

Tun. 2.45 Zola. 3.15 Sue Me. 3.45 Róyal Cas-

| 760-ANAB GOLD 240 M Duine 4-9-13 ... Emily Jove (5) 10 |
| 760-ANAB GOLD 240 M Duine 4-9-13 ... Emily Jove (5) 10 |
| 9-50 MPPLLINE 10 K Burle 4-9-8 ... D Williams 5 |
| 3 000-OLLE'S CHACKIE 143 J J Quarte 4-9-3 ... P M Quinn 4 |
| 4 000-RIGGLETIO 127 C Rhomton 4-9-2 ... D Kozak (7) 7 |
| 5 2332 MSS ALL ALDRE 25 (87) / Bove 4-8-12 R Dody-Booksher (8) 9 |
| 8 000-STRIBBEERS 267 S Nationet 4-8-10 ... W Hatchiston (9) 1 |
| 7 000-ZABRISTON 9-6 0 1 Mont 5-8-2 ... O Hardon (5) 1 |
| 8 050-SRIY PROSPECT 280 M Britain 5-7-13 ... G Harron 6 |
| 8 050-WARSISTON ANDER 122 A National 5-7-10 ... M Sergie (5) 3 |
| 10 200-SET A LIFE 157 (8) M Britain 5-7-10 ... M Sergie (5) 3

1-6 Mess All Alone, 7-7 Pagetesto, 10-7 Offic's Churcles, Grey Prospect, 12-1 others

cade. 4.20 Loughanles. 4.50 Vincent.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

1.10 FARNSHELD APPRENTICES MAIDEN

HANDICAP (Div I: £1,616: 1m) (10 runners)

2,000 Guiness: Tap On Wood (1979). St Leger: Moonax (1994). Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe: Rheingold (1973). Irlah 1,000 Guineas: Nicer (1993).

trish Derby: Sir Harry Lewis (1987). Irish Oeks: Dibidale (1974), Bolas

Few of his previous 1,999

easily as Summer Bounty. The 6-5 on favourite took up the running for Alan Eddery sics have cluded him, al- after three furlongs in the though he has saddled the 'lk-mile Sea of H.E.A.T. & Derby runner-up four times. Space Air Maiden Stakes and

winner." he said.

1.40 FARMSFIELD APPRENTICES MAIDEN 4.20 WELLOW SELLING STAKES (3-Y-0: £1,906: 7f) (10)

1 00-5 BRO OF PREY 8 A Newtombe 4-9-11 P Clarks 3 2 00-0 POETTO 28 (8) Mrs J Brows 4-9-4 P Hamagan (7) 5 3 000- \$4,50,400 57.5 N Mrs par 5-9: P Presidence 4 00-6 \$4,50,400 57.5 N Mrs par 5-9: P PRESIdence 4 00-6 \$4,50,40 76.0 N Hospits 4-9-1 P M Coden 1 5 322- JORAM BOY 82 A Balley 5-6-11 P M Coden 1 5 630- THE CANNER ROWER 50.0 NW Extently 4-6-5 S Resignificant (3) 2 7 0333 -60.DBN LYRIC 14 J Pear 6 4-8-1 N Hamagan (3) 2 8 50-0 LESLEY'S AUDITURE 23 F Auditure 4-7-12 Li Gardiam (5) 9 5 500- WASSA MOON 82 M Britan 5-7-10 M Sersyle (5) 8 2-1 liggs Boy, 3-1 Golden Lyrk, 5-1 Bad Ol Prey, 0-1 Sassets One; 12-1 Lesiey's Adversary, 14-1 Sagusto, 16-1 The Carmo Rover, Wagga Moon, 20-1 Poetlo.

2.10 FARNDON HANDICAP (Div I: £2,424: 6f) (10)

1 O-11 TOM TUM 21 (CD.P) Mics J Drain 4-9-13 ______ T Williams 2 2 3020 MALLIA 21 (V.CD.F.S.S) 1 Barron 6-9-9 Ximberley Hart (5) 1 3 000 SUPPERE MARACON 997 M Polyters 9-9-5 T 6 Mict Justinia 8 4 3032 MATEAURA 7 (SO.D.S.S) 5 Powmap 6-9-2 ______ J Durin 7 5 5015 MSTY MORAMA 8 (CD.G.S) 0 Microtis 5-8-12 Alex Drains 7 5 5015 MSTY MORAMA 8 (CD.G.S) 0 Microtis 5-8-12 Alex Drains 7 5 5015 MSTY MORAMA 8 (CD.G.S) 0 Microtis 5-8-12 Alex Drains 7 504 REPUBLIC 144 J Herierton 3-8-6 _______ 0 Sweeting 10 8 5504 CAMEO 8 M Channon 4-8-1 ______ 0 Sweeting 10 8 5504 CAMEO 8 M Channon 4-8-1 ______ 0 Channon 6-7-10 _____ P fessey 5 0 341 SAND STORM 19 (6) M Warning 3-7-10 ______ C Cogan (7) 8

2.45 BEESTHORPE CLAIMING STAKES

4-5 An Executive Do, 7-2 Cresh Call Lady, 10-1 Zoiz, Last Spint, 12-1 Simpson's De-main, 14-1 Bibbackon

3-1 fem 1en, 7-2 Muer's Double, 11-2 Mateama, 13-2 Maile, 6-1 Nithy Norman 10-1 Republic, Ramsay Hope, 12-1 others

1 05-0 BRAVACCIO 45 (V) P 5 McEnter 9-3 J Westers 2 2 3465 ZDE A 7 M Outro 9-3 B Carter 1 3 5231 AH DIRECUTIVE DO 17 (6) P Hasters 8-13 P Boods (5) 2 4 00-6 RIVER BOY 7 (6) P Streetscare 8-71 Doubter 7 5 0663 LDST SPRIT 7 P Hast P 9-1 C Tearnock 6 4-51 CRASK (ALT LDV 16) (7) C Alter 8-2 N Cartisle S 7 464 SALPSON'S DOMAN 17 J 5 Moore 7-13 A Michells (5) 4

3.15 FARNOON HANDICAP (Div II: 52,411: 61) (9)

9 -045 NOBLE PATRIOT 23 R Holioshead 4-7-10 ... P M Outon (7) 2 9-4 Mayo Tingi, 5-2 Pleading, 6-1 See Me, 6-1 Cool Secret, 18-1 Anolato, Rude Amakering, 14-1 Have Al Nasarrazal, 16-1 others.

3.45 ASLOCKTON HANDICAP (£3,701: 7f) (10)

11-4 Royal Cascade, 5-1 Betrino, 6-1 Wating Knight, 7-1 Dahlidya, 6-1 Bateman. 10-1 Yardi, King Uno, Pleasure Trick, 12-1 others.

5-7 irtch Cream, 7-2 Rich Ballerina, 4-1 Loughaphea, 11-2 Carrie Pootes, 12-1 Pipe-tor, Della Georgia, Dorotty Allen, 16-1 others.

4.50 EAST STOKE HANDICAP (£2,827: 1m 4f) (13)

TRANSERS: A Kelleway, 6 wanners from 10 runners, 60 0%, Miss S Wilton, 11 from 39, 28 9%, J S Moore, 4 from 16 :50 %, W Hagges, 7 from 39, 23 3%; O Carroll, 4 from 20, 20 0%, P Haskirn, 24 from 130, 19 5%, JOCKEYS: R FitzPatrick, 9 wanners from 25 rides, 32 0%; C Hannon, 3 from 12 :25 0%, Kimberley Hart, 11 from 52, 21 2%, P Findericks, 5 from 26, 18 2%, J Warter, 37 from 222, 18 6%; bliebatd, 12 from 77, 15 6%, P MicCabe, 20 oom 135, 14 6%; O Samenay, 16 from 141, 12 8%,

4.15 (2m hote), 1, Estate Agent (J To-zan, 13-2), 2, Father Krismas (10-1); 3, Saffron Rose (33-1). Miss Fara evens fav 17 ran NS Readomsko 114, 191, P Nichols, 109, 27-30, 12-50, 22-40, 24-60 DF-510-20 CSF, E64-41. 5.20 (2m 52r) 1, Mestre Sala (R McGraft, 8-1); 2, Au Lac (6-1), 3, Cathoun (72-1) Barnetistown 11-8 (av 18 ran. 3-1, 9 Hr Daly - Tote 19-50, 12-00, 12-30, 12-00 DF 120-20 CSF, 550-99 Placepot E91.30. Quadpot £13.30. Placepot £13.50. Quadpot £5.70.

Huntingdon Wincanton Goings good to soft Going: good to soft 1.35 (2m ch) 1, Country Beau (A P Mc-Coy, 13-8 tayl; 2, Andersto (3-1); 3, Bou-chesson (10-1); 8 ran. 6t, 4t, J King, Tota. 52.60, 51,40, 51 70. DF: \$3.30 CSF: 2.05 (2m 6f hole) 1. Lord Noelle (J Culio-1). 11-1). 2. Bosuns Maie (3-4): 3. Wimotrs Farcy (7-4 lay). 11 ran. 2. 13. Wiss H Krught. Tote. 216.60, 24 10. 21 50. £1.10. DF £37.30. CSF: £34 72.

2.10. or 537.30. GSP: 534.72.

2.35 (3m 1(110)(d ch)) Double Thriller
(J. Tozzard, 1-6 tav), 2, Wayward King
(6-1), 3, Melting (100-1) 4 ran Dist, 8L P.
Nichols, Totar £1.10 DF: £1.30. CSF:
£1.51 £1.51 3.10 (2m hdie) 1, Grey Shot (J Osborne, 4-6 fav), 2, Midnight Legend (5-1); 3, Up-grade (16-1) 6 ran, 2½, 4, 1 Bakting, Tote: £7 70, £1.50, £2.00, DF, £3.30, CSF; £4.22.

1.45 (2m 41 110yd hdie) 1, Berlin Stae (R. Thomton, 9-2 fev); 2, Ashgan (25-1); 3, Wersworth (33-1); 4, Billy Normane (10-1), 21 ran. NF: Suprise Gurner. 2, 2, R. Stronge. Tota: (55-20; E1.50; E4.90; E7.60, 63-20; DF: 680-70. CSF. £112-20. Treast: 63,656-69. \$3,055.69.
2.15 (3m ch) 1, Smarty IA Megure, 5-2 tay); 2, Yanda Lord (11-9); 3, Total Joy (13-2); 10 nan. 9; 100, Mrs J Pirman Total: 53 10; 21.70, 51.80, 51.80. DF; 25.00. CSF, 59.55. Tricest: £35.52.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

CSF, 59:50. Infoat: \$50:52.
2.50 (2m 4) 110yd ch) 1, Threidio (R. Ferrant, 5-4 tay); 2, Mr Edger (8-1); 3, Heavens Above (20-1), 9 rgn, NR; Jakes Justice, 18, 2, H Day, Tota, 52:40, 51:40, 51:40, 61:50 DF, 57:70 CSF, 59:24. 3.25 (2m 110)rd hzlip 1, Dangerus Precedent (D Gallegher, 1-3 lav); 2, Albrighton (4-1), 3 Stopwatch (200-1), 7 nn. NR-SIB Waters, 3*sl. 17t. C Egeton. Tole: £1.30; £1.00, £3.50. DF: £2.10. CSF. £1.82. 27.82 4,00 (3m ch) 1, Mr Boston (Mr J P MoNe-mara, 14-1), 2, Destin d'Estruval (evens-tay); 3, Tracte Dispute (4-1), 14 ran. 4, 134 F Woodhouse, Tote: £1620; £3 40, £1.30, £1.70, DF: £11.40, CSF, £24.99. \$1.30, £1.70, DF: £11.40, CSF. £24.99, 4.30 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Oscall An Doras (Art J P McMarmare, 2-1 ||-lav); 2, Robers Pride (11-2); 3, Black Statement (14-1), 0 My Love 2-1 |||-lav, 6 ran. 3%, 188. F. Murphy, Tota: £3.20; £1.50, £1.90, DF: £8.80, CSF. £11.60, 2m 110yd hdle) 1, Mourrelas Cheval (J. A McCarthy, 5-2); 2, Palatiel (15-8 tay); 3, Buckslen Carneo (7-1), 21 ran. NR. Alsande, 8, 94. M Pipe. Tota: £4.50, £160, £1.30, £2.50, DF: £4.00, CSF: £67.2, Instingt £2.998.30.

Lingfield Park Going: standard

1,25 (2m) 1, Red Brook Led (P Dos, 14-1); 2, Pertemps Massion (11-2), 3, Red Raya (11-4 tav), 10 ran. 7t, 2-4, 5 Dow. Tota: 518-50, 55.60, 51.60, 51.60, 51.90, DF 980.30, CSF: \$78.63, Tricast: \$251.09. 1.55 (1m) 1, Prodigal Son (N Polard. 6-1), 2 Kanawa (7-1); 3, Ki Chi Saga (8-1) Beguile 9-2 lav. 12 ran. Nk. 3¼ Mrs V Ward. Tote: 55.00, 54.30, 51.70, 52.80. DF. 223.70 CSF: 248.76, Tneast £328.71. 2.25 (1m 4) 1, Line Denner (Lisa Hacket, 10-1), 2, Key To The Cay (19-8 tev); 3, Cass-nation Bey (100-30), 8 ran NR: Stranghai U 114, 3) 1 T Mils, Tota: £12.30, £3.10, £1.80, £1.10, DF, £18.00, CSF; £25.40. 3.00 (2m) 1, Steares SBk (J Outra, 7-4 tay); 2, Behand The Scenes (7-2); 3, Artic Courier (6-1). 6 ran. 6, 4! W Musson Tole. 52-70, 51:50, 16:0, 52:0. DF \$4.80. CSF: \$28.59. Tricest \$231.28. 3.35 (5) 1. Mulcarrab (A Culhana, 9-4); 2, Hall Tone (15-8 tay); 3, Friendly Brave (11-1) 5 ran. 'A, nk. O Chapman Totar 63-50; £120, £120, DF-£3 40, CSF, £8 48. 4.10 (1m 2) 1, Sussesser Bountly (A Eddery, 5-8 teV); 2, Billoheng (15-1); 3, King, Pher (5-2), 5 ren. NR. Tick N Pick, 3t, 3t-1, 8 HRs. Tota: £1 60, £1 10, £3:20. DF: £8:00. CSF: £13.88. A40 (Im) I, Genhus (P Doe, 9-1); 2, Mawkab (11-1), 3, Powder River (4-1 lev). 11 ran. 4, hd S Dow Tote: 93.80; 63.10; 6430, C1.30, DF: 658.30, CSF: 698.90, Tricast: 6423 60. Cast 1423 60.

5.10 (7) 1, Mentabard (J Quinn, 14-1); 2. Acid Test (10-1); 3, Sossor Ridge (11-2). Redoubtable (6th) 11-10 fav. 8 ran 34, 61. Mrs S Lamyman Tota: 116.00; 23.70, 22.70, 21.10. DF: £38.70, CSF: £129.70, Tricsch £793.26

Placepot: £12.90 Quadpot: £3.40

HANDICAP (Div II: £1,512: 1m) (9)

(3-Y-0: £2,029: 1m 4l) (7)

Jordan sets his sights on reaching new heights

By KEVIN EASON

amon Hill was not sure which way to look as three pairs of breasts were flaumed enthusiastically for a battery of happy cameramen. Ten yards away from the business of garnering the race-day publicity that makes sponsors happy, Mike Gascoyne, technithe future." cal director at Jordan, tapped his foot, impatient to get on with the business of racing. The Jordan team has been

the most popular and entertaining since the day Eddie Jordan slid into Formula One eight years ago on a financial shoestring, with more opti-mism than cash. He learnt quickly the value of publicity to sponsors and every photograph, even if it features seminaked page three girls, is potentially worth a few more quid in the bank to pay for expensive technicians such as Gascoyne, and drivers such as Hill, on his £5 million salary.

In the past, reporters wanted to talk to McLaren because they were successful, Jordan because he always had an opinion — even if his team stood no chance of winning. Now Jordan are a winning team and the distractions off the track that once kept the fledgeling team affoat are getting in the way. Jordan knows that he is close to his ambition of a world championship and now reporters want to talk to a winner, not a publicity-seeker.

That means no more page three girls or scantily clad beauties such as Emma Noble, John Major's future daughter-in-law, in the pit lane, attracting the gaze of bemused mechanics who should have something else on their minds in the hours before a race.

We will be cutting back on some of the activities we used to get into," Jordan said reliant on commercial sponsorship and we always do everything we can to help them, but there is a new focus to Jordan now. We used to have to search for sponsors, now they want to be associated with winners. We are winners and that has to be our concern for

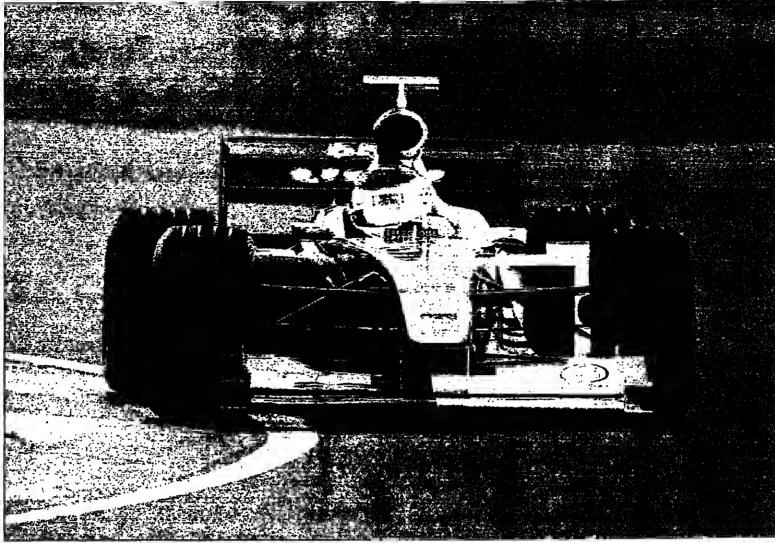
Last season almost broke Jordan. The eternal optimist, who had wheeled and dealed his way to victory in Formula Three and Formula 3000, believed that he was destined never to win in Formula One, despite throwing more than £300 million into the team.

By mid-season and without a point. Hill was starting to make noises that he was unhappy enough to quit Formula One, forcing Jordan to take drastic action. He parted company with his long-time friend and chief designer, Gary Anderson. It hurt and shook the team, which had worked with Anderson from the earliest days; but it also put steel into Jordan, the Irishman believes.

"People don't leave Jordan," he said, "Many of the team have been together from the start and Gary was one of those. But the decision had to be made to bring in Mike Gascoyne and reorganise the way the team worked. We had come through Formula Three and Formula 3000, winning races and championships, but sometimes I thought Formula One was killing me, that I was

never going to win."

The introduction of Gas-coyne produced an almost immediate change of fortunes. Ralf Schumacher registered the team's first point at Silverstone and then came that epic victory for Hill at the Belgian Grand Prix. That, though, was another day when the normally affable yesterday. "We are a team Jordan was forced to reinvent decision.



British American Racing (BAR) are heading for a confrontation with the Australian Government when the team lands in Melbourne next week for its first Formula One race. Authorities in Canberra are thought to be considering a protest to the FIA, the sport's governing body, after photographs were released of the team's new dual livery paintwork. pictured above, with branding for two types of

Jordan had no doubts that

he made the correct judgment. He said: "What would I have

told the sponsors and the team

if, instead of getting a one-two finish, we had two cars in the

gravel trap? When he is sitting

Hill: concerned

himself as Formula One's new man of steel. Hill was leading

with Schumacher, his team-mate, closing and five seconds a lap quicker, when Hill forced the hand of his boss: he

gave warning that both he and

Schumacher could end up in

the gravel if they were forced

to race to the end of the sodden track at Spa-Francorchamps. Jordan did not hesitate and ordered Schumacher to stay

Footage of the incident, to be

shown in an ITV documentary

next week, is among the most

revealing to have come from

inside Formula One. After

Hill's entreaty for common

sense, Schumacher repeatedly

refused to acknowledge the

order over the pit-to-car radio.

underlining his fury at the

behind Hill.

cigarette. Australia has some of the toughest anti-tobacco laws in the world and ministers are said to be unhappy with what they consider a flagrant attempt to draw attention to two brands by BAR.

The compromise split livery was devised after an inquiry ruled that BAR could not run their cars in two different paint schemes, for Lucky Strike and 555 cigarettes, both brands owned by the team's paymas-

with his grandchildren on his

lap. Damon will probably

think back that probably the

greatest win of his career was

with Jordan. Everybody ex-

ters, British American Tobacco. The strategy back fired when an independent inquiry ordered BAR to scrap the plan after opposition from the FIA. The FIA has also called Craig Pollock, managing director of BAR, before its world council just five days after the Australian Grand Prix to answer what amounts to a disrepute charge. That could result in a hefty fine or even a one-race ban.

bringing Hill calls for action Damon Hill has called for an investigation into a spate of

accidents during Formula One testing in which rear wings have flown off, causing accidents (Kevin Eason writes). In the latest. Johnny Herbett hit crash barriers at the Barcelona track at 190mph, wrecking his Stewart-Ford. The Briton walked away unburt and later told mechanics that he was unable to steer once the rear wing became disconnected at the fastest part of the circuit. Similar accidents have involved British American, Ferrari, Benetton, Prost and Sauber this winter, prompting Hill to urge the governing body to te. "The FIA ought to be concerned about it." Hill said. "Front and rear wing failures are two of the worst things that can happen because they only occur at high speed."

fact that weighs heavily on Jordan before the opening grand prix of the season in Australia next week.

His desperation for credibility in a sport that he has done much to enliven has only been increased. "Jordan was fourth in the championship last year and I am desperate to be in the top three this year," he said. We have to move on and I have to believe now that a championship is possible. As a team, we are stronger for what happened last year and more focused in every area of the business and in every activity. Now we know we can win, we want more."

* Driving Ambition: A season on Tuesday, March 2, at

RALLYING

Finn is fined for part in crash

FROM JEREMY HART IN NAIROBI

TOMMI MAKINEN, three times the world champion and leader in the title race this year, has been fined \$10,000 (about £6,250) after a head-on crash that left £500,000 worth of rally cars written

Makinen collided with the Subaru of Robbie Head, the Scottish driver, during the reconnaissance for the Safari Rally, which started yesterday from Nai-robi. Subaru were also fined, but not Head. "I have no comment to make except that the fine will be paid." Makinen said. The Finn reportedly re-fused to wait for Head to

return up the bush track that they were using before starting his practice. The two cars collided at a closing speed estimated at 100mph. Head was concussed and suffered double vision for 24 hours.

Makinen, who has won five of the past six rallies, said: "The results make the last few months look easy. but it has been very hard work. Kenya will be the

hardest to win yet." Colin McRae was also in trouble before the start. The Scottish driver damaged his right thumb when his Ford Focus clipped a tree stump dur-ing testing in East Africa. The spinning steering wheel caught his thumb.

rebreaking an old fracture. The thumb is painful but I will be able to drive," McRae said. "It has been

well strapped up. Fastest on the 1.5-mile super-special stage on the outskirts of Nairobi yesterday was Juha Kankkonen. of Finland, who finished the spectator stage a sec-ond faster than Richard Burns, his Subaru teammate. Carlos Sainz, in a Toyota, was third and McRae fourth. Makinen onds to Kankkunen.

HOCKEY: CANTERBURY GAINING REPUTATION AS NURSERY FOR GOALKEEPERS

Triggs leads the way Williams injury adds for Kent custodians to Slough's headache

By Sydney Friskin

SELECTORS of England squads at various levels are happy to look no farther than Canterbury when a goalkeeper is required. At the head of the list is Simon Triggs, recently drafted into the senior side for the tour of Argentina. and three more from the Kent club are likely to be seen in junior international competition at the end of next month.

Ian Johnson, from Simon Langton Grammar School, and Dan Grayson, of Kent College, are in the under-16 squad while Kier Starley, from Ashford, is the choice at under-18 level.

Triggs can expect to be kept busy on Sunday, when Canter-bury visit Reading for a quarer-final match in the EHA Cup. Reading have pulled Andy Holden out of retirement to fill in at full back for Jon Wyatt, who has not recovered from a hand injury.

ing scorer this season, has a groin strain that may keep him out of the Cannock team for the home cup match against Lewes on Sunday.

Jordan, a middle-of-the-pack

team, to a one-two finish is a

no longer the plucky, middle-

ranking team of last year, but

The Jordan team of 1999 is

There is no point in risking Crutchley at this stage," Martin Gilbody, the Cannock manager. said. "We do not know much about Lewes other than the fact that they are third in the first division."

Teddington's visit to Old Loughtonians revives memories of the 1994 final at Birmingham University, where Teddington won 1-0. Having beaten Old Loughtonians 5-4 in a league match last month, Teddington are preparing for another stern tussle.

Southgate, who entertain their traditional rivals, Hounslow, in the remaining quarterfinal, will find the visiting defence harder to crack after the recent return of Jon Potter.

By CATHY HARRIS

Bobby Crutchley, the lead- SLOUGH may be forced to brave face but the latest withfield a squad of only eight drawals, after the loss of the players against Glasgow Western in their opening match of the European indoor chub championship in Glasgow today after Lauren Williams, the Wales international, became their latest casualty.

Williams, daughter of the former Wales and British Isles rugby union full back, JPR, broke her thumb in a freak accident at home on Wednesday and joined Sam Wright, who is not fully fit after a long illness, and Fronz Greenham, who has flu, on

the sidelines. There are hopes, however, that Greenham, a member of the England squad that won a silver medal at the Commonwealth Games, may recover in time to play some part in the

Andy Halliday, the Slough coach, continued to put on a

scasoned campaigner, Lesley Hobley, with a shattered thumb a fortnight ago have done nothing to enhance the prospects of the English champions. "I think I will be wrapping everyone else in cotton wool." Halliday said.

Slough have a tendency to start slowly and this will be tested by Glasgow Western. who retained their national title recently but have shown inconsistent form. Niall Sturrock, their coach, feels the chub is in a period of

Halliday said that his squad would need to avoid being enmeshed by their opponents in a physical battle. "Our defending has improved enormously and the key to success will be keeping it tight and scoring from set pieces."

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SPORT IN BRIEF E COLF: Karrie Webb, of of Russia, the No 2 seed, Australia, scored a career-best 63, nine under

par, to take the first-round lead in the Australian Women's Masters in Melbourne. She leads by two strokes from Anna-Jane Eathorne, of Canada, whohad a hole in one at the 153-yard 16th.Webb thought that, at one stage, she might be able to achieve the magical 59. "I was hitting everything so close I felt I could birdie then I thought, 'let's just get ROWING: Steve Redgrave, Matthew Pinsent and James

every hole," she said. "But as low as we can'." Cracknell will race in the coxless four in the FISA Team Cup in Seville this weekend, but with Ed Coode substituting for Tim Foster. who has had a back operation. Great Britain have 12 crews in the event. including Cath Bishop and Dot Blackie, the world coxless pairs silver

medal-winners, a week after

indoor championships in the

Bishop's win in the world

TENNIS: Anna Kournikova, needed just 51 minutes to dispose of Kristina Brandi, of the United States, 6-3, 6-1 in the second round of the IGA Superthrift Tennis Classic in Oklahoma City. Kournikova now faces Chanda Rubin, of the United States, seeded fifth, who beat Nicole Pratt. of Australia, 6-3, 6-2 in the quarter-finals

E CYCLING: The 120 riders

competing in the North Road CC classic time-trial, which opens the new season tomorrow, will face a course that has been lengthened by three miles to 28 miles because of road works. With three previous winners among the line-up near Brookman's Park. Hertfordshire, Jim Henderson, the Britain hill-climb champion, faces a tough debut in the event. E CRICKET: Scotland have appointed Graham Dilley, 39. the former England fast bowler, as their bowling coach for the World Cup. He

will assist Jim Love, Scotland's director of cricket.

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Cummins comes of age with Leeds

rancis Cummins is 22. yet he is into his seventh season with Leeds. He is easily the longest-serving player at Headingley and the only one left, after many upheavals, with any working knowledge of Ellery Hanley, who revisits his old stamping ground with his St Helens side in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup tomorrow.

The shy, gangly youth from Dewsbury, whom Hanley took under his wing at 16 and who makes his 150th appearance for Leeds in the eagerly-awaited fifth-round tie, announced his arrival with two tries away to Hull King-ston Rovers in September 1993. Hanley scored a hat-trick that day.

"I was in awe of these guys -Ellery, Garry Schofield, Alan Tait. t got to share the same corner of the changing-room with Ellery, whose sheer professionalism just taught me so much," Cummins said. There is as much chance of the phlegmatic Hanley being over-whelmed by nostalgia tomorrow as of Cummins laying down the law in the dressing-room ("I've never been pushy that way"), which leads Cummins to conclude that Hanley will apply the same impeccable logic and stringent detail that assisted his own early learning process. "Any fond memories will be for afterwards," he added.

talks to a rugby league player with a big future

It was as the youngest player in a Challenge Cup final, at 17 years and 200 days, that Cummins was in danger of being best-known until coming of age with a strike-rate of 26 tries in the JJB Super League and selection by Great Britain on the wing against New Zea-land last season. That, and a length-of-the-field try that would have graced any cup triumph, except that Martin Offiah had already blazed a trail of glory for Wigan with two of the best tries

seen at Wembley. For Cummins, defeat in the 1994 final was not as hard to swallow for an awestruck apprentice on £35 a week as it was for the senior players, whose boots he still had to clean. When the same occurred at Wembley the next year, it maintained an unhappy sequence of finishing runners-up to Wigan, including the Super League Grand Final last year. With Wigan removed from the cup equation by

the Rhinos 12 days ago, the tempta-

Christopher Irvine tion to look ahead to Wembley would have been hard to resist in the past. 'This Leeds team would beat any other t've been in, includ-ing the Ellery era. There were great flair individuals then, but you've only to see the aggression in defence to notice the difference

Doug Laughton had his crides during four years as coach of Leeds in which he made Cummins an apprentice on the basis of ten minutes play on a park pitch, but his youth policy at a club that had been notorious for paying lots of money for ordinary performers in a search for instant success is now reaping the rewards of long-term

While Cummins feels indebted to Laughton — "some players have called him names, but he was a brilliant man-manager," he said — there is no doubting his progress under Graham Murray, the Rhinos Australian coach.

After several years as a mainstay in the side, he never quite showed. in Murray's first season, the explosiveness and competitive hunger that had marked him out as a special player.
"I was disappointed at what I

saw during the cup match we lost to Castleford last season, but he's come on and deserved his Great Britain selection," Murray said.



Cummins came under the wing of Ellery Hanley, the former Leeds star, at 16 and now, at 22, he is the longest-serving player at the club

"He has the pace and skill, while his defence has improved 50 per cent. He has had a great off-season and is looking stronger and more committed than ever. The 6ft beanpole has fleshed out

to 14st 7lb. Cummins regards him-

self as fortunate. To have had Craig Innes, the former All Black, alongside him when he began at Leeds, and now another fine centre in Brad Godden, an Australian whose dazzling footwork complements his clever running on the left side of the

field, has brought the best out in him. "I don't think Brad or Craig the Headingley furniture. Cumcould do it for an average wing, because Frannie is much more than that. He's the potential to finish off any sort of move," Murray said. There is a lendency, too, to forget

the Headingley furniture. Cum-mins still has a long way to travel up the learning curve. As someone who once stood on the Leeds terraces, no one appreciates the expectations there better.

BADMINTON: BRITONS ENJOY DAY OF SUCCESS IN WORLD GRAND PRIX FINALS

Morgan moves into overdrive

KELLY MORGAN, the first British woman singles player for eight years to qualify for the World Grand Prix finals, secured one of the best wins of her career when she defeated Yasuko Mizui, the world No 9. in Brunei yesterday.

The 23-year-old from Cardiff, who is also the first Welsh player to reach the grand prix finals, produced a stirring comeback to win 4-11, 11-7, 11-5 against a Japanese op-ponent who has been one of the circuit's most notable climbers. Morgan could herself climb from ber position of world No 13 back into a top ten that she has only once previously, and briefly, occupied.

Morgan was shaky at the
start and made a few too

many mistakes in an attempt to force the pace, but she was more patient in the second BY RICHARD EATON

game and her play gradually became more solid. In the third, she had more freedom to attack and the longer it went on the more she dictated the course of the rallies. It was



Morgan: on the rise

a fine performance by Morgan, although her chances of reaching the knockout stages have been undermined by an earlier defeat by the world silver medal-winner, Gong Zhichao, of China.

However, Simon Archer, of England, could fied himself in the final rounds of two doubles events after his two He and Chris Hunt, the

European men's doubles champions, who are playing in their last tournament before ending a six-year partner-ship, won a thrilling contest against Denny Kantono and Adi Antonius, from Indonesia, the former All-England finalists, 3-15, 17-15, 15-7.

"It has been difficult for them knowing that there is no

future in what they are doing after this week," Andy Wood, the England coach, said, "But halfway through the second game they came to life and then played really well. They oow believe they can qualify

from their group." Archer and Hunt will do that today if they beat another Indonesian partnership, Tony Gunawan and Haryanto

Archer's second option is in the mixed doubles, in which he and Joanne Goode gave themselves a chance of qualifying from their group after a highly encouraging 15-8, 7-15, 15-5 win over two more Indonesians, Trikus Heryanto and Minarti Timur, the former World Grand Prix title-holders.

Results, page 57



ediams nun.

News 211 - Pess

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

Begin Bridge with The Times: Lessoo 45 - More bids with extra values

Last week I started to look at rebids with strong hands and I gave some examples of strong balanced hands and strong single-suited hands.

What would you bid on the following hands after you opened One Heart and partner rebid One Spade:

(A) A	AK65	(B) · ♠	6 .	(C)	•	KJ5
Ø	A 10652	΄	AKJ106		6	AQ1054
	KJ3	•	AK1065		٠	AQJ5
*	6	+	A 4		*	5

With Hand (A) you have a fine hand in support of spades. You have 15 HCP and a singleton which may be worth something extra (more on hand evaluation in a later article). Show partner this with a jump to Three Spades. Hand (B) is tremendously strong with 19 HCP and two five-card suits. Surely you must have a good chance of game even if partner has very little. Rather than make a simple Two Diamond rebid which would not be forcing, jump to Three Diamonds. A jump in a new suit is played as forcing to game so partner won't pass and you can investigate your best contract. Hond (C) is tricky. Although you have significant extra values you cannot bid Three Diamonds because you are not strong enough to force to game facing a minimum partner. Bid a simple Two Diamonds. If partner bids again you will show your extra strength and spade support.

(E) ▲ AK65 (F) ♠ QJ3 ♥ AKQ7654 (D) A AK65 T AK 10954 A10652 ♦ A5 0 54 AK3

Hond (D) is nearly an ace stronger than Hand (A) above. Don't give partner the opportunity to pass Three Spades, bid Four Spades yourself. Honds (E) and (F) are examples of a Four Spades yourself. Honds (E) and (F) are examples of a very important principle of bidding umbalanced hands: distribution is more important than high-card points. With Hand (E), although you have only 14 HCP, partner needs as little as Qixx in spades for Four Spades to be a good contract, so bid it directly. Again, do not give him the chance to stop short of game. Hond (F) is also very powerful and has been improved by partner's One Spade bid. Four Hearts will be a reasonable contract if he has as little as the king of spades and only a contract if he has as little as the king of spades and only a singleton heart. Again, do not give him the chance to stop short of game - bid it yourself.

EYou can get any lesson you may have missed from this beginners' course by sending two 26p stamps per lesson (or five stamps per set of five) to Sally Brock, 73 Totteridge Lane, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 7QA. Don't forget to state which ones you want.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

NASEL

a. A nose-guard b. A bat

c. An engine-casing

POLY PRAGMATIC a. Producing polyps b. Officious c. Having more than ten sides

NIGON

a. A sait water crocodile b. Maize bread c. A niggard PARASANG a. A quiver for arrows

b. A dance

c. About 3 miles Answers oo page 58



h3

By RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT Oxford v Cambridge

This year's annual contest be-

tween Oxford University and Cambridge University will be held at the RAC in Pall Mall on Saturday, March 6. The respective team line-ups are as follows: Cambridge

Brian Kelly (Trinity). Harriet Hunt (St John's), Mark Ferguson (Queen's), Karl Mah (Pembroke). James Vigus (St Dunstan's). David Moskovich Aron Cohen (Queen's). (Queen's), Nathan Alfred

(King's). Oxford Dharshan Kumaran (Green), Jonathan Rowson (Keble), Ale-Trifunovich ksander Anne's), Oliver Rosten (Sommerville), Benjamin Savage (Lady Margaret), Joel Ouaknine (St Cross), Kieran Small-

bone (New), Emily Howard (Lincoln). Oxford, with one grandmaster and one grandmaster-candidate leading their team, start as favourites. Here is the board one clash from last

White: Mark Ferguson Black: Dharshan Kumaran Marshar London 1998 ıct

year.

Va		בה, בטוומטוו
	Саго-К	ann Defen
1	e4	æ
2	d4	d5
3	e5	¢5
4	കമ 5	e6
5	Be3	Nh6
6	c3	Nc6
7	Bb5	Bd7
а	Bxc6	Bxc6
9	Nf3	Nf5
10	Bd4	a 5
11	0-0	a4
12	Nbd2	g5
13	g4	Nxd4

15 16 0-0-0 f5 Be7 Rh1 Qe2 Nh2 Nxg4 Qd1 t3 Nf1 fxg4 Rh4 Bb5 Rt8 Bd8 Qf7 Qf4 Rfh8 Bd3 Bf5 а3 Qf2 Nxf2 Nhg4 Rxh1 Ra1 Rxh1 Bd4 Bb6

41 Rd1 42 Nxt2 Bxf2+ Rxa3 White resigns

e Light ※1200 全主。 第二章

After three rounds of the Linares elite tournament scores are: Kasparov and Adams 2/3; Anand, Topalov, Svidler and Kramnik 1-5: tvanchuk and Leko 1.

Keene online

You can send me your queries, puzzies, problems and games direct by email. The address is keenechess@ aol.com. The best contributions from Times readers will be pub-tished either here or in the Saturday Times Weekend column.

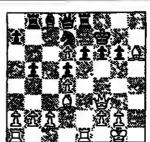
WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Godena-Cacco. ttaly 1998. Black is trying to de-fend himself with a solid wall of pawns in front of his king. How did White dismantle this protection with a fine sequence?

Solution on page 58

ಸಾಹಾನಿಯ ಪ್ರಕಾರಿಕ ಸಂಪರ್ಧದ ಸಂಪರ್ಧದ ಸಂಪರ್ಧಿಕ್ಕಾರಿ ಎಂದು ಎಂದು ಎಂದು ಎಂದು ಎಂದು ಎಂದು ಎಂದು ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಸಿ ಎಂದು ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಸಿ ಪ್ರಕಾರಣಗಳು



New interest rates for Halifax customers.

The Halifax announces new interest rates for savings customers.

Non-resident and non-personal rates

Effective from 1st March 1999.

Rates payable to Halifax UK customers are advertised separately.

		Non-resid	ient ratest		Non-personal rates'				
	CUF	RENT	RATES FRO	M 01/03/99	CUR	RENT	RAT	ES FROM 01/03	3-99
ACCOUNT	AER %	GROSS p.a.	AER %	GROSS p.a. %	AER %	GROSS p.a. %	AER %	GROSS P.A. %	NET
60 DAY GOLD									
£100.000+	5.60	5.60	5.05	5.05	-	-	-	-	-
£50,000+	5.20	5.20	4.65	4.65	'-		_	-	-
£25,000+	4.85	4.85	4.30	4.30	-	-		-	-
£10,000+	4.60	4.60	4.10	4.10		-	-	-	-
£5,000+	3.90	3.90	3.40	3.40	_	-	-	_	-
Monthly Income Option					-				
£100,000+	5.60	5.46	5.05	4.94	-	-	-	-	-
£50,000+	- 5.20	5.08	4,65	4,55	-	-	_	-	-
£25,000+	4.85	4.75	4.30	4.22	_	-	-	_	-
210,000+	4.60	4.51	4.09	4.02	-	_	_	-	-
£5,000+	3,90	3.83	3.40	3.35	_	-	_ :	_	-
SOLID GOLD	1								
£50,000+	3.85	3.85	3.20	3.20	3.80	3.80	3,15	3.15	2,52
£25,000+	3.75	3.75	3.20	3.20	3.70	3.70	3.15	3.15	2.52
£10.000+	3.55	3.55	3.00	3.00	3.65	3.65	3.10	3.10	2.48
£5,000+	3.35	3.35	2.80	2.80	3.40	3.40	2.85	2.85	2.28
£500+	3.05	3.05	2.45	2.45	3.05	3.05	2.45	2.45	1.96
Monthly Income Option	5.05	3.03	2,43	2.43	5300	3.03	2.43	2.43	1.50
£50,000+	3.85	3.78	3.20	3.15	3.20	3.74	3.15	3.11	2.49
£25.000+	- 3.75	3.69	320	3.15	3.70	3.64	3.15	3.11	2.49
£10,000+	3.55	3.49	3.00	2.96	3.65	3.59	3.10	3.06	2.45
£5,000+	3.35	3.30	2.80	2.76	3.40	3.35	2.85	2.81	2.25
£500+	3.05	3.01	245	2.42	3.05	3.01	2.45	2.42	1.94
	5.05	3.01	245	2.42	244	3.01		2.42	1.54
LIQUID GOLD	1								
£25,000+	2.75	2.75	2.05	2.05	2.65	2.65	2.00	2.00	1.60
£10,000+	2.65	2.65	2.05	2.05	2.60	2.60	2.00	2.00	1.60
£5,000+	2.55	2.55	1.95	1.95	2.50	2.50	1.90	1.90	1.52
£2,500+	2.45	2.45	1.85	1.85	2.35	2.35	1.75	1.75	1.40
£500+	2.35	2.35	3.85	1.85	2.25	2.25	1.75	1.75	1.40
£50+	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.40
ASSET RESERVE CHEQUE ACCOUNT	η								
£50,000+	4.89	4.80	4.27	4.20	4.27	4.20	3.65	3.60	2.88
£25.000+	4.63	4.55	4.01	3.95	3,85	3.80	3.24	3.20	2.56
£10,000+	4.27	4.20	3.65	3.60	3.60	3.55	2.98	2.95	2.36
£5,000+	3.55	3.50	2.93	2.90	3.29	3.25	2.68	2.65	2.12
£1+	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.80
Matured TESSA	5.09	6.00	_		-	-	_	_	_
YOUNG SAVERS! £1+	4.50	4.50	_	_ 1	_	_	_	_	_
MATURED RUNDS ACCOUNT	1	4.50		1					
	2.40	3.40	2.80	280	2.40	3.40	2.80	2.80	2.24
£10,000+ £2,000+	3.40 2.90	2.90		2.30	3,40 2.90	2.90	2.30	2.30	
£2,000# Monthly Income Option	2.50	2.90	2.30	2.30	236	290	2.30	2.3U	1.84
E10,000+	3.40	3.35	2.80	2.76	3.40	3.35	2.80	2.76	2.21
£2,000+	2.90	2.86	2.30	2.28	2.90	2.86	2.30	2.28	1.82
TREASURERS ACCOUNT			1						
E2500+	1 :	_		_	3.70	3.70	3.20	3.20	2.56
£500+		_	Ī .	_	3.15	3.15	2.65	2.65	2.12
£1+	1 -	_	_	_	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.68

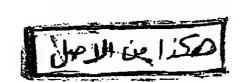
Bonus Accounts

		Non-	resident :	ratest		_		Non-pers	onal rates	•	
*****	CUF	RENT	RATE	S FROM 01/	03/99	CUR	RENT		RATES FRO	M 01-03/99	
ACCOUNT	AER %	GROSS p.a. %	AER %	GROSS p.a. %	AER incl. Conditional Busins %	AER %	GROSS p.a. %	AER %	GROSS P.E.	AER incl. Conditional Books p.a. %	NET
HALIFAX TESSA 2 Variable Rate	5.80	5.80	5.30	5.30	5.90	-	-	-	_	-	-
BONES GOLD					1						
£100.000+	4.85	4.85	4.35	4.35	5.35	4.60	4.60	4.10	4.10	5.10	3.28
£50.000+	4.50	4.50	4.00	4.00	5.00	4.35	4.35	3.85	3.85	4.85	3.08
£25,000+	4.20	4.20	3.70	3.70	4.70	4.05	4.05	3.55	3.55	4.55	2.84
£10,000+	4.15	4.15	3.60	3.60	4.60	4.00	4.00	3.45	3.45	4.45	2.76
Monthly Income Option											
£100,000+	.4.85	4.75	4.35	4.27	- [4,60	4.51	4.09	4.02	_	3.22
£50,000+	4.50	4.41	4.00	3.93	- 1	4.35	4.27	3.85	3.78	_	3.02
£25,000+	4.20	· 4.12	3.70	3.64	- 1	4.05	3.98	3.55	3.49	_	2.79
£10,000+	435	4.07	3.50	3.54	- 1	4.00	3.93	3.45	3.40	-	2.72
MONTHLY SPARER	ŀ										
£1+	3.27	3.25	2.76	2.75	- 1	_	_	_	_	_	_
CLOSED ISSUES	-		Ι.								
(Not available to new customers) .	1				[
TESSA Gold	6.30	6.30	5.70	5.70	5.82		_	_	_	_	_
Halifax TESSA	5.75	5.25	5.25	5.25	6.07	_	_ !	_	_	_	_

POINTS TO NOTE. AER stands for Annual Equipplier Rate and illustrates what the interest rate would be if interest was paid and compounded each year, interest will be paid not offer the lower rate of income tar (currently 20%) has been deducted unless you have completed a registration form and made a declaration to comply with Inland Revenue regulations. The net rates shown, which are only examples and have been rounded, assume the lower rate of income tax has been taken off. All interest rates quoted may change. Special rates of interest on certain accounts paid assume the lower rate of income tax has been taken off. All interest rates quoted may change, expectal rates or interest on certain accounts pard to savings customers who appear in our records as being under 21, if your savings account behaviors it less than £50 you will not receive any interest unless you appear in our records as being under 21. The non-resident interest rates are payable to individuals who are not ordinarily resident in the UK and who complete an appropriate declaration form. "Boous Gold, Solid Gold and Liquid Gold non-personal accounts (such as accounts held by clubs, charities and compenses) are no longer assistable to new customers. Full account conditions and details of when interest is paid, and how to qualify for the TESSA Gold, Halitax TESSA, Halitax TESSA 2, Bonus Gold and Monthly Saver bonuses, are available from any Hakitax tessar.

Halifax plc, Trinity Road, Halifax 26th February 1999





onship is already weaving its delicate and enticing web, for nothing is quite as might have been expected. Both France and England, the bigwigs of the past decade, were, on the evidence of their first outings, not against South Africa is puzzling.

While the chances are that they will improve. Scotland and Ireland, on the other hand, are firing on all cylinders. Even though they have lost a match each, on very narrow calls indeed, they know that, but for their own lack of kicking boots, they could have been in the very happy and rare position of being the chased in the championship table and not, as is usually their misfortune, the hapless

For Wales, there does not any

longer appear to be the consolation of being included even among the chasers. Graham Henry, the coach, has admitted that after two failures they are effectively out of the running. The sudden drop from the level of their achievement

How could the same group of players that performed so well in the autumn have been so disappointing? Yet still, and there are those who might scoff at the suggestion, Wales have produced periods of collective attack that the other teams have not matched, other than perhaps England during the opening bombardment against

Purple these patches may have been, but they were far too brief to savour properly. One of the prob-lems for Wales is that they commit

Gerald Davies assesses the state of play after the first two rounds of the Five Nations Championship

too many mistakes of the most basic kind: knock-ons, spilt balls, losing possession one way or another. Henry cannot be held responsi-

ble for these sort of errors, however much there are those who wish to point an accusing finger at him. Even without variety in the line-out, which they lack, or without the confidence in the scrum, which is needed. Wales could still have managed to make a better impression in the tournament were it not for the unforced errors that were absent against South Africa.

Still, it is nimble Scotland who are the surprise package. Here is a country whose domestic rugby is in a deeper recession than that of Wales and yet, for all their internal difficulties, the national team is performing with a sharp and cutting edge, inspired almost.

Scotland's play is constantly a palpable expression of their pride and honour. There is a standard, they seem to declare boldly, below which they must never fall, howev-

er fragile they may appear. Each player in his fashion plays to his capacity so that the whole, which can always be counted on to include a player or two of flair and genius, is often far more impressive than the workaday bits and pieces that first impressions might

They are manifestly moved, too, by the Five Nations tournament itself in a way they appear not to be for other internationals. Whatever travails they may experience, whatever their shortcomings may be, they count for nothing when the Five Nations comes around,

It invariably brings out the best in them. But there is more to it than simply a passion that hugs unquestioningly to the flag. The Scots are extraordinarily acute rugby thinkers on their feet. The game brightens their eager eyes

They had planned the downfall of Wales in many a dingy dress-ing room. Many fine, and not-sofine words would have been spo-ken. Yet the art is to modify the plot in the light of what the opposiion may or may not do on the paddock. The perceived weakness may not, in the event, turn out to

be the actual weakness, nor will

the expected strength prove to be

the real strength. The Scots have the capacity to respond accordingly. If the opposition commits an error, they react spontaneously in the open spaces, getting two or three players swiftly into position in a way that might have been encouraged by their love of sevens, to which, of course they gave birth. There is always a sense of relief and release that the

tight game is behind them.

Against Wales and England, when they were forced to cope with sustained onslaughts. Scottish heads did not drop and when they sprung from their defensive positions, they seemed to be able to outthink their opponents.

ice spin koffs in efa Cup

For all the control that coaching attempts to impose, and the presby-terian influence in their backterian influence in their back-ground, there is a refreshingly maverick side to Scottish rugby. Intuitively, they can break out of the shackles that clearly inndered their opponents so far, England and Wales, whose players seem to have difficulty thinking on their have difficulty thinking on their

Scotland's next two matches, against Ireland and France, will present different examinations. It will be intriguing to see what answers they can come up with.

RUGBY UNION

Clubs make their point over cup

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

made such a chaotic start to the season, will begin on schedule next season and will play through the World Cup, but with a revised points system to compensate leading Allied Dunbar Premiership clubs whose players are taking part in the global tournament.

Premiership matches played in the first third of the season will be worth two points for a victory, in the last two thirds they will be worth three points and only one club will be relegated, but after a two-leg play-off with the leading club in the second division. First-Division

Rugby (EFDR) decided that the tournament being played in the home unions and France must be used as a marketing tool rather than leaving the domestic game to start three months late, in

EFDR's decision will not

THE Scotland players on

duty at Twickenham on Satur-

day were given a ringing vote

of confidence yesterday when

all 22 were included in the

squad to play Italy at Murray-

Such was the satisfaction

among the selectors that they

would not drop any player to

make way for Matthew Proud-

foot, the Edinburgh Reivers

tight-head prop, who has been

Proudfoot may still replace

Paul Burnell against Italy

after Jim Telfer, the Scotland

coach, assesses his form for

the Scottish Districts against

Northampton oo Saturday.

field tomorrow week.

added to the party.

emerged with a firm proposition. It is a system that recog-nises the disruption of the World Cup but, at the same time, allows professional clubs to stay open for business.

However, Saracens are suggesting that a specific tournament should be organised to cover the first 12 weeks of next season. They contend that the World Cup will divert far too many spectators, via television, if not directly. "We will not rock the boat because if there is a two-thirds majority. you go along with it," Nigel Wray, the chairman, said. "But we will put up a paper suggesting only a conference system, seven teams in each. to be played after the World Cup, with, say, an Allied Dunbar shield going on during the

tournament itself." But Tom Walkinshaw, the EFDR chairman, said yesterday that promoting the game around the World Cup would meet with universal approval, be good for spectators. He will

The Scottish Rugby Union

will take no further action over

the incident that earned Mar-

tin Johnson, the England

lock, a yellow card for stamp-

ing on the neck of John Leslie,

the Scotland centre, in the

SCIJAD: Sectas G Armstrong (Newcasile Faicons), C Chelmers (Edinburgh Rovers), I Fairley (Edinburgh Revers) J Lealie (Stesgow Caledonians), K Logan (Wasps), S Lengstaff (Glasgow Caledonians) C Marray (Edinburgh Relvers), A Talf (Edinburgh Revers), O Townsend (Brve), Forwardis: Brotherstone Edinburgh Revers), G Balloch (Glasgow Caledonians), P Burriell (London Soutish), S Girmee (Gasgow Caledonians), D Burlett (London Soutish), S Girmee (Gargow Caledonians), D Hursell (London Soutish), S Girmee (Gargow Caledonians), P Bursell (London Soutish), S Girmee (Gargow Caledonians), P Bursell (London Soutish), S Girmee (Garon), E Petaris (Balh), A Pountiney (Northamoton), M Protodioot (Edinburgh Revers), B Marray (Bedford), E Petaris (Balh), A Pountiney (Northamoton), M Protodioot (Edinburgh Revers), A Reed (Wasps), T Smith (Glasgow Caledonians), P Walton (Newcastle Falcons)

match on Saturday.

that English clubs will be restored to European competition over the next three weeks. and that Europe will almost certainly be the first competition to be played once the

Walkinshaw, the Gloucester owner, is confident that by the end of March a complete framework for the domestic game will be in place, which will feature a healthy Allied Dunbar Premiership and Europe for the top five clubs.

"We hope that, over the season, things will level out," he said. "If the World Cup could be played in the close season, for each hemisphere, that would be ideal but it's something we have to live with. There is no way we can shut businesses down for three or four months, the international players are only a small part of most people's squads,"

In between now and the fifth World Cup, in 2003, Walkinshaw clearly expects the size of the first division to be reduced from 14 to 12, if not ten, possibly through natural wastage if such mergers as that proposed between Bristol and London Scottish go ahead. There is a central fund in place that would offer a "golden parachute" to any club that felt it could not sustain a first-division presence, though Walkinshaw stressed no club had yet applied for it.

However, considering the

many disagreements the game in the British Isles has en-dured this season. Walkin-shaw was remarkably optimistic about the immediate future. He believes that behindthe-scenes discussions will resolve the positions of the two Welsh breakaway clubs, Cardiff and Swansea, and that a document put forward by France and England will, with minor adjustments, allow the English back into Europe. We have indicated to the union that we want to be part of Europe next season," he said.



Ashby falls at the first hurdle

CAROL ASHBY, the champion, was the first to falter on a day of surprising results at the Isca Centre in Exeter, a new venue for the women's nation-

al indoor bowls championships, yesterday. Ashby, from Eastbourne, who won the singles title at Potters Leisure Resort, Norfolk, last winter and went on to reach the final of the world indoor singles championship at Llanelli, was defeated in the first round by Sharon Rickman, who has been an Eng-

land regular since 1987. "I knew it was going to be a tough match," Rickman said. "I just bung in there for the first half, and it was only when I opted for a dead short

By David Rhys Jones

jack length that I got on top in the final stages." In a desperately close encounter, the scores were level six times be-fore Rickman, 12-11 adrift, played ber joker and pinned her faith on those minimum lengths. Four ends later, she was 18-12 in front, and, although Ashby closed to 18-16, Rickman got home with a treble on the 2ist end.

Rickman, a civil servant from Tolworth, who works for the Ministry of Defence, has already won the national iunior singles and senior champioo of champions titles twice each. She finished the day as firm favourite to win the blue

riband title for the first time after beating Rene Barber, from

Paddington, 21-13. Barber had caused an upset by beating Jayne Roylance, from North Walsham, the 1993 champion, 21-9 in the first round, while Marilyn Crane, from Clacton-on-Sea, defeated Edna Bessell, the 1988 runner-up, 21-19.

Rickman will face another tough challenge in the semi-finals this morning from Di Hunt, one of the leading crown green players, who has 50 impressed the national selectors on the flat that she will be making her international debut in Belfast next month.

Hunt, who now plays for the Newton Hall club, Blackpool, lost to Mary Price in the final five years ago and skipped a Swinton quartet to the national fours title the same year:

Ann Hill, a consistent competitor from the Mote Park club, Maidstone, will meet Chris Hiom, from Boston, in the other semi-final. Kathleen Strutt, from Egham, seemed to have Hiom's measure when she surged into a 17-12 lead by the 22nd end.

Two doubles and a treble took Hiom to the brink of victory, but she dropped a dou-ble on the 27th end to trail 19-21 before completing her great escape with another double on the 28th.

PHOLAND INDER

1 M A Wasses and not but FALL OF PWCKETS: 1-18, 2-26, 3-83, 4-158, 5-181, 6-208, 7-216, 8-256. BOWLING: Gillespe 10-1-55-2, Hendry 10-0-72-0, McShamming 10-1-35-1; Shaw 9.2-1-33-2, Franklin 10-0-63-1

FOOTBALL

Umpres. C Robinson and G Baxter

Wednesday's late results

SNOOKER

Finger of fate plays its hand

By Phil YATES

RONNIE O'SULLIVAN has broken the little finger of his right hand but has decided to ment against Alan McManus or Dennis Taylor in the Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge at the Assembly Rooms, Derby, today, O'Sullivan, winner of the event in 1996 and runner-up

for each of the past two years, sustained the injury when he fell over at his home in Chig well. "I was in a hurry and slipped," he said. "Obviously I was worried that I wouldn't be able to play, but I took a few painkillers and I can't feel the pain too badly now."

The injury will prevent O'Sullivan from playing left-handed as he sometimes does, and using the rest will also

cause discomfort. Marco Fu, of Hong Kong. and Steve Davis, six times the world champion, both justified their wild-card inclusions in the 12-man event yesterday. Pu emphasised his potential with a 5-3 victory over Mark Williams, while Davis defeated Peter Ebdon by the same

williams, winner of the Irish Open and Welsh Open this season, recovered from 3-1 down to 3-3, but Fu accounted for the seventh frame with a break of 108 before comfortably adding the eighth.

Davis, ineffective when losing 5-1 to Darren Clarke in the first round of the Scottish Open last week, showed radical improvement, compil-ing four half-century breaks on the way to securing a quarter-final against John Higgins, the world No 1.

In the sixth frame, trailing 4-1, Ebdon potted 15 reds with 14 blacks for a run of 113. With the colours ideally situated, the sixth maximum break of the season looked a possibility, but Ebdon unluckily surrendered position after potting a testing final red.

Proudfoot waits

for his chance

By Alasdair Reid

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LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES TO PLACE NOTICES IN THESE SECTIONS PLEASE: Telephone 0171 680 5878 Fax 0171 782 7930 Or Email thi.features@newsint.co.uk Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

BADMINTON

BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN CHAMPTONISHIP QUALIFY-ING MATCH (or Crystal Palace NSC) Eng-land 61 Belaus 57.

MATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NEA): Bos-lon 111 Orlando 72. Indiana 104 Toranto 94. Prisatelpha 94 Socramento 81; Char-lotte 83 Marin 81; Detrot 89 Cleveland 73: New Jersy 85 Portian 94. San Antonio 99 Seattle 81. Denver 97 Utah 87

EXETIEN: EMMEA, mational, champion-shiper, Staginer, Frant round: A Hill (Mois Pic) bt C Northall (Teignbridge) 21-13; M Crone (Claston) bt E Bessell (Yeoni) 21-19; K Strum (Claston) bt S Matthews (March) 21-19; C Histori (Botton) bt J Green (Dolphin) 21-11; Thelweil (Harry) Cross) bt B Alderson (Thornson (Avon Valley) 21-12; S Teidman (Groups Feld) bt C Ashiby (Eschoume) 21-16; R Earber (Paddington) bt J Roylanco N Widstrang 21-8 Commenter/Brailer Hill bt Carne 21-17; Histori bt Shitt 21-13; Unbedged patter Frest round: C Anderson and L Ryan (Prince Authur) bt Effekte and P Paddington; bt J Roylanco Lang (Pariston) 28-8 M Effect and S Heriott (Scal bt O Sindh and P Heri (Donning) 22-15; A Rechwad and S Chilson (Vind) bt S Delicon and J Swell (Rivernoad) 24-22; M Trent; and O Bentook (Desborough) bt J Herinty and S Bissel (Neisteid) 21-15

CAMBRIDGE LENT RACES MEDIT First division: Caus tool LMBC, Jesus byd Downing, Chies's bod Churchis: Emmanuel bod Fizwitiern Nitochiens bod Ferminauel bod Fizwitiern National byd General bod Selvyn: Peterfouse bod General Second divisions: Peterfouse bod General byd General Bod Capus Chies, Jesus Bod Pembroke It CAN byd Scalesone's Bod Fembroke It CAN byd Scalesone's Bod Pembroke It CAN byd Scalesone's Bod Pembroke It CAN byd States Bod Pembroke It CAN byd States It Fourth divisions: Outers' It byd States It Byd Cort Is Bod Thinly Novo Care It St. Catamer's It byd Christia It Rebitoron It byd Clare It St. Caus Byd Churchis It Rebitoron It byd Care It LMBC V. Women: Pleat divisions Newtham byd Christia. Cataming byd CAN Second division: Getten byd Selwyn, Magdalene byd LMBC It Knig's byd Capus Christ, Robinson byd Newtham It Wolfon byd Peterhouse, Derwin byd New Hall II

FOR THE RECORD BOWLING: Butback 10-0-49-2; Logan 10-0-54-2; Symington 8-0-33-1; Haywood 7-0-29-0; Feetick 7-0-38-0; Dawson

Tour match Gauteng v England A WANDERERS (first day of four; England A won toss). England A have scored 263 for four workers against Gauteng

four wedsets against causing
ENGLAND A: Pirst Imings
TM P Vaughan c Kdwell b Bod 76
0 L Maddy Ibw b Bod 76
3 W T Key C Pothes b Kdwell 71
M G N Windows c Koeing b Bod 26
45
V S Solenia not out 23
Extras (b 2, b 1, w 1, nb 12) 28
Total (4 whits) 28

Edites to 2, 6 1, w 1, no 12 3 20 20 3 G P Swarm, 1 C M W Read, P J Franks, S O Thomas and O A Cosker to bat. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-151, 2-156, 3-164. 4-210 BOWLING Veenstra 19-7-33-0; Kidwell 18-1-53-1; De Bruyn 11-4-38-0; Masmula 10-4-22-0; Crookes 18-2-58-0; Bodi 16-2-52-3; Bacher 1-0-4-0 GAUTENG: "A M Bacher, S G Koening, A J Seymore, Z de Bruyn, O N Crookes, G Toye-na, 1 N Pothas, R E Veenstra, G Bodr E W Kidwell, W B Massmule.

Umpires: B Lambson and C School. One day international New Zealand Under-19 v England Under-19 CHRISTCHURCH (New Zeeland Under-19 won loss), England Under-19 best New Zoe-land Under-19 by two wickets

Extras (b 1, lb 9, w 7, nb 4).... Total (7 wids, 50 overs) 257
W McSamming and H Shaw did not box.
FALL OF WICKETS 1-80, 2-199, 3-203.
4-222, 5-243, 6-248, 7-249

Total (8 wids, 49.2 overs)... 1 M A Wallace did not bat.

Wednesday's late results

FA CUP: Fifth-round replays: Blackburn 0
Nowcaste 1: Derby 3 Huddersteld 1; Tottenham 2 Leeds Uto 0
Untibono Leagut: President's Cury:
Second-round replay: Legh Reit 2 Aluncham 1 Untilla first divisions Cup; Third
round-Hudenal 1 Radutite 2
DR MARTIERS LEAGUT: Southern division: St Leonards 0 Folkesone Invacts 3
ARNOTT INSURANCE MORTHERN
LEAGUE CUP: Fourth round: Bedington
Unopeth 1; Gustorough 2 Duriston Federation 3, Jamow Rooting 2 West Auctiand 1,
ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUEFreit division: Blingten 2 Easington 2.
COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENC
LEAGUE: Premier division: Higheorth 6
Shortwood 1.
MINIERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MED.

MINIERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MED-LANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Tod-dington 2 Harpenden (L. NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE CUP: Third-round replay: Citheroe I St

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Nationwide League

Wattord v Swindon (7.45)................. LEAGUE OF WALES: Holywell v Fiftyl (7.30) FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Pre-mier division: Bohemans v Cork (7 45); Shebourne v Finn Harps (7 45); Waterlord v St Patrick's Athlete (7 45)

RUGBY LEAGUE Silk Cut Challenge Cup

Cassieford v York (7.30).....

OTHER SPORT HOCKEY: Women's European Indoor club championship: Division A (at Kehm GOLD COAST, Australia: LPGA Australian Masters: Leading Trat-round scores: 63: K Webb (Aus). 65: A J Estrowne (Car). 65: J Moodie (GB), K Weiss (US), M Estil (US), M Lowien (Aus). 65: C Yarrezziel (Japan), H Applers (Aus), J McGill (US), J Mortey (GB), L Kane (Can), A Nicholes (GB), H Oingane (Japan), J Crafter (Aus), K Tschester (US). Other scores: 70: D Reid (GB), C Matthew (GB). 71: L Davies (GB)

ICE HOCKEY

SEKONOA SUPERLEAGUE: Ayr Scottish Engliss ? Manchiseter Storm S. Cardiff Davils 3 Shaffled Steelers 4 (07) NATIONAL LEAGUE [NHL]; Washington 1 Phoenix 2; Detroit 2 Los Angeles 3 (07): Plocata 5 Philedelphis a, Toronio 2 Carofine 2 (07). St Louis 1 Chicago 3; Delias 1 Nashing 2 (20); Edmonton 1 Anaheim 2; San Jose 1 Vancouver 1 (07) MOTOR RALLYING

RAIFIOBI, Kenye: Seferi Raily: Opening sprint stage: 1, J Karlaumen (Fin, Suberu) Irint 53.4sec; 2, R Burns (58, Suberu) et 1 Osse; 3, C Salrz (59, Toyoka) 11; 4, C McRee (3B, Ford) 1.8, 5, F Letti (t, Seet) 20

SNOOKER DERBY: Liverpool Victoria Charity Chellenge: First round: S Davis (Eng) bt P Ebdon (Eng) 5-3; M Fu (HK) bt M Williams (Wales) 5-3

TENNIS

BATTERSEA PARK: Guardian Direct Cup: Singles: First round: J Kroelek (So-vakia) bt T Henman (GB) 2-6. 7-6. 6-1; Kucera (Slovakia) bt R Schuttler (Gar) 7-6. 6-0. Second round: T Johanson (Swe) bt O Sargument (I) 6-0. 6-7. 6-2; Y Kaferikov (Russ) to B Black (Zim) 6-3. 6-2; Kucera bt G Recux (Fr) 6-2. 6-0. Doubles: First round: B Black (Zim) and W Ferreira (SA) bt P Galbreith (Zim) and W Ferreira (SA) bt P Galbreith (Zim) and P Haarihus (Floi) Cardian (Cardian Cardian Cardian (Cardian Cardian Cardian

Ferrara bt T Carbonal (Sa) 2,6-1; Black and Ferrara bt T Carbonal (Sp) and C Haggard (SA) 6-4, 6-2.

PARIS INDOOR OPEN: First round: E Lidroviseva (Russ) bt 8 Appelmens (Be) 7-6, 6-3; A Mauresmo (Fr) bt 1. Andretto (Fr) 6-2, 2-6, 6-2; Ovan Roost (Be) bt V Rustroviseva (Cro) 6-2, 2-6, 6-2; Ovan Roost (Be) bt V Rustroviseva (Bo) 6-4, 6-0; E Likroviseva (Russ) bt 5 Kleinova (Cr) 8-4, 7-5, J Haland Descupe (Fr) bt A-C Sadot (Fr) 6-1, 6-2; Mayersmo bt K Habeudone (Slovalda) 8-2, 6-1; ORG. AHOMA CTY: Super Thrift Classics Second round: A Kourillova (Russ) bt N Pratt (Aus) 6-3, 6-2; J Ch (US) bt M Washington (US) 7-6, 6-3; A Stevenson (US) bt T Panova (Russ) 2-6, 7-6, 7-5.

1 Mardene lea

ICE HOCKEY

Storm

hold

Cardiff

at bay

By a Correspondent

MANCHESTER Storm went

into their match at Nottingham last night needing one point to take the Sekonda Superleague ode. The leaders

also knew they had the luxury

of having three more games to make sure they could not be overtaken by Cardiff.

Kuri Kleinendorst, Man-

chester's American coach, has

resolutely refused to be distracted by Cardiff's deter-mined chase of a crown that

has seemed destined for Man-

chester since before Christ-mas. "We will worry about

what we do," he said. "Our des-

That destiny was even brighter after the flurry of ac-

tivity over the previous 48

hours. Cardiff grittily kept their challenge alive at Ayr and Sheffield on successive

nights. On both occasions they

came close to defeat in regular

ome, which would have spelt

the end of Welsh hopes. But

each time they took the issue

into sudden-death overtime.

They lost 5-4 in Ayr and 4-3 in

Sheffield, but each point they gained for drawing in regular

time was enough to stay in

contendon for the otle.

ony is in our own hands."

Clubs may face 5pm kick-offs in **Uefa Cup**

FROM ROB HUGHES IN GENEVA

THE clock is fast ticking away on the European club football formal for next season and there is an unpalatable shock in store. To suit television demands across 51 nations, British clubs could find themselves kicking off at 5pm in the expanded Uefa Cup competition, although European Cup Champions' League matches will remain at 7.45pm.

The new format will see the Champions' League played over two evenings - initially Tuesdays and Wednesdays and commits 164 clubs to playing a total of 526 matches.

English clubs represented at a Uefa workshop here yesterday were Arsenal, Manchester United, Liverpool and Chelsea, and none of them warmed to the prospect of asking sup-porters to break the habit of a lifetime and turn up for earlier

Uefa, the European governing body, had tried to consult with its leading clubs, but it was not the most successful of exercises. It appears that each nation on the Continent has different habits, different ideas of the time to fill their stadiums and different priorities regarding customer satisfaction. There was even one suggestion, from Portugal, that the

market value of clubs be used to decide the seedings - an idea rejected by Gerhard Aigner, the Uefa general secretary, who insisted that merit had to govern the rankings.

However, when three dubs — Paris Saint-Germain, Bayer Leverkusen and Manchester United — made presentations, more was gleaned about the fu-ture. Speaking for the Parisian club, Lionel Dreksler, the controller of the Parc des Princes. confirmed attempts to persuade supporters to trek north of the city to use the new Stade de France. Perhaps unmervingly. Dreksler suggested that the future lies not with supporters

but "spectator clients" and he outlined a modern marketing venture that uses the stadium as the nerve centre of what could appear, sinisterly, like exploitation - Opel is the main sponsor of the club and Dreksler suggested that PSG could use computer data on their clients so that Opel would know precisely who were its potential buyers.

Bayer Leverkusen, although owned by the giant chemical firm, outlined a more enlightened approach concerning supporters. They can seat only 22,500 in the BayArena, but with comforts of centrally heated seating and with so special an emphasis on children and youth that they literally have a kindergarten to adulthood phi-

losophy smoothly in place. For Manchester United Peter Kenyon, a director, had a message of expansion from a club already the envy of most. The planned enlargement of Old Trafford to seat 67,000 by 2000 - adding to the £90 million already spent on the stadi-um since 1992 — will create another 12,000 places, each of which will be designated to match-by-match ticket purchases as opposed to the season-ticket and corporate hospi-

United, Kenyon said, still derives 34 per cent of its revenue although he did talk of developing the relationship from fans so that they become "customers", he at least did not refer to football supporters as "clients".

The world is changing apace, but Aigner showed a rare twist of humour when. with club representatives all around him asking for discordant developments, he concluded: "I can only say the game itself is simple. The rest is like a stone you turn over and over again and never come to a sat-

Graham quick to weave his magic

By Kevin McCarra

n the midst of complaints over fixture congestion and unavailing propos-als to cut the number of mem-bers, there is a healthy expansion scheme at work in the FA Carling Premiership. The list of clubs that are guaranteed to pucker opposition brows is

growing. Tottenham Hotspur and, to a lesser extent, Newcastle United, have used the FA Cup as a prospectus. Victories on Wednesday in fifth-round replays were eye-catching previews of the vigorous plans that they are beginning to im-

Class divisions in English football have been flagrant. with the top of the Premiership table turning into a penthouse suite to which only Manchester United, Arsenal and Chelsea have access. At present, Tottenham and Newcastle are far below that level, but they may soon get keys to the private lift.

The transformation of Tottenham, who will meet Barnsley at Oakwell in the FA Cup quarter-finals, has been astonishing in its rapidity yet predictable in nature. George Graham is one of the few managers who comes under warranty.

Their latest success took the form of a 2-0 victory over Graham's previous club. Leeds United. Before the match, David O'Leary, his successor at Elland Road, had remarked that Graham inherited a sound squad at White Hart Lane. The difference has been in the manager's ability



Ginola, outstanding against Leeds, has responded to Graham's clever management

to extract consistent performances out of hitherto untapped potential.

Lethargy and complacency have been expelled and Graham is masterly at maintaining a creative lension in relationships with his players. In the win over Leeds. David Ginola hit the bar and the post before striking home a magnificent volley for the second goal. It seems probable

that the Frenchman will be

voted footballer of the year. Graham, however, measured his praise with care, noting that Ginola had roamed too far from his left-wing role in the first half.

It had been presumed that

discipline that he espouses. He has been much cleverer than that. Qualified acclaim is offered and Ginola is left to feel that he on approval and could still be rejected. The hint of uncertainty has given

an edge to his displays.
Others such as Darren Anderton, the scorer of a fierce opening goal, appear sturdi-er, as if even muscles and joints have taken on board the message that fragility cannot be afforded at Graham's Tottenham. Accidents, nonetheless, do continue to happen. Les Ferdinand and Dav-id Wetherall, the Leeds defender, were both detained in hospital overnight after a clash of heads. Ferdinand will be seen by a specialist, having also suffered concussion in the match against Mid-

dlesbrough on Saturday. In a hard-fought replay at Ewood Park, Ruud Guliit's Newcastle side, with Dietmar Hamann dominant in midfield, conducted themselves at a far higher level than Blackburn Rovers and the 1-0 win was arrived at through a sharply taken goal from Louis Saha, the France Under-21 international, who is on loan from FC Metz.

Newcastle, who face Everton at home in the sixth round, had lost to Southampton on Saturday and the squad looks thin in some areas, but Gullit is at least restoring the stylishness of play that had been missing at St James' Park since the departure of Kevin Keegan as man-

Manchester had come within four minutes of being crowned champions Wednesday. Despite still missing Kelly Askew and Stefan Ketola, their injured marksmen, they produced a magnificent team performance to beat Ayr. the champions, 6-2 in Scotland.

Cardiff were 3-2 down and scenting failure in Sheffield when Mery Priest struck to revive their faint hope.

Paul Heavey, the Cardiff coach, could not bring himself to concede to Manchester, but he came very close. "What we must do now is make sure we go into the play-offs with a psychological edge," he said. "We have set our sights high and when results don't match up to your expectations there is danger of something negative creeping in. There is still plenty to play for."

Heavey has led a worthy campaign against a club that has maiched Ayr's metronomic consistency of last season and deserve to be champions.

Owens has Italy mission

LIKE any representative manager, John Owens will be anxiously waiting by his phone tomorrow night fearing those calls telling him that

players have withdrawn from his squad. As the man m charge of the England semiprofessional squad that will gather on Sunday in advance of their match against Italy at Hayes on Tuesday, Owens is keeping his fingers crossed that his 16-man party comes through FA Umbro Trophy and Nationwide Conference matches unscathed.

The reputation of the game outside the FA Carling Premiership and the Nationwide League is at stake, so assembling a squad that can blend

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

effectively in the short time . available was high on Owens's list of selection

"With this team you start from scratch and you don't really have much time with theplayers to set patterns of play and so on, but it's still very exciting," Owens, a former manager of the England Under-15 team, said. "You realise it's pretty special for the players. They get to keep their shirt and get a cap. There is a fantastic attitude, they really want to play for England." -

Owens and Steve Avery, his assistant, watch matches but rely on club managers to give honest assessments of their players' form. He also runs the Liverpool under-16 side -"training on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, a game on Sunday" -- between his job as

a maths leacher in S1 Helens. If Owens allows his mask of impartiality to slip, it is only to look out for the results of Altrincham matches. A stalwart at centre half during their years of success in the 1970s, he will be urging the UniBond League side 10 triumph away to Boston United in the trophy lifth round tomorrow on their way to repeating the Wembley successes of 1978, in which he shared, and

has been told by Gerard

FOOTBALL IN BRIEF

SUNDERLAND, the Houllier, the Liverpool Naconwide League first division leaders, are planning manager, that he does not to extend the capacity of their figure in his plans. Stadium of Light to 52,500 if Birmingham City have they achieve promotion to the made a player-plus-cash bid FA Carling Premiership this to sign David Holdsworth season. The ground holds that values the Sheffield 41,500 spectators, but this United captain at £1.5 could be increased in the next million. They have offered few seasons, transforming it into the second-largest ground in English league defender. football, Old Trafford, the home of Manchester United, holds 56,000.

Sean Dundee, the Liverpool forward, has rejected another transfer, this time to VfB Stuttgart. Dundee, who has not started a game for the first leam in the FA Carling Premiership

£800,000 plus Martin Grainger, the Birmingham Stoke City, of the second division, have signed Gavin Ward, a goalkeeper, 28, from Bolton Wanderers.

Brighton have banned four supporters from future games after crowd trouble in the third division match away to Southend United last Saturday, when three men were arrested and charged.

Jayawardene leads solid reply

CRICKET: INDIA DECLARATION SETS SRI LANKA STERN CHALLENGE

COLOMBO (second day of five): Sri Lanka, with eight first-innings wickets in hand. are 397 runs behind India

MAHELA JAYAWARDENE. with a brisk and unbeaten half-century, led a sturdy Sri Lanka reply to India's imposing first innings total of 518 for seven on the second day of their Asian Test Championship match.

Jayawardene was 59 not out at the close, having made his runs from 74 balls with the aid of nine fours and an on-driven six off the spin bowling of Harbhajan Singh. Jayawardene was given a life at 25 when Laxman, at short leg, spilt a bat-pad catch off Kumble.

Sri Lanka had lost their first wicket with only 18 runs on the board when the newcomer, Ashish Nehra, trapped Marvan Atapattu leg-before for six to open his Test account.

Sri Lanka's other opener, the left-handed Russel Arnold, made 34 in two hours and added 75 for the second wicket with Jayawardene before being run out by smart fielding BY OUR SPORTS STAFF minutes and hit 12 fours, his

from Rahul Dravid who, from close to the wicket, returned the ball to Nayan Mongia, the wicketkeeper, before Arnold could regain his ground.

Earlier, the India captain. Mohammad Azharuddin, and Saurav Ganguly had both completed half-centuries during the afternoon session. Azharuddin fell to a brilliant diving catch by Chandika Hathurusinghe at long-on for 87 to give Arnold, a part-time spinner, his first Test wicket. Azharuddin batted for 218

fifth-wicket stand with Ganguly being worth 112. Ganguly also fell to another splendid effort in the field. Having reached 56, he was caught al extra cover by the substitute, Ruwan Kalpage, diving to his left. Mongia went for 25 in the final over before tea, holing out off Arnold.

India, resuming on 351 for three, had lost Sachin Tendulkar to the first ball of the day, caught behind after edging an outswinger from

Chaminda Vaas to Romesh Kaluwitharana.

□ Lancashire have been given the go-ahead to use Muttiah Muralitharan as their overseas player in the coming season. The Sri Lanka Board has sent a fax message to Old Trafford saying there are no objections to their controversial spinner playing county cricket after his country's part in the World Cup tournament has been completed

However, they want Mura-litharan back in Sri Lanka in time for their Test series against Australia, beginning in early September.

Yorkshire members will be asked to vote for a return of first-class cricket to Sheffield and Harrogate from the year 2000 at their annual meeting in Huddersfield next month. A meeting has already been held in Sheffield to rally support.

The county's cricket chairman, Bob Platt, has warned that taking more matches away from Headingley may seriously limit investment in the ground and mean the end of Test cricket in Leeds.

S Ramesh c Ranebunga b Jayawardone. V V S Leximon c De Salva b Pereira. R Dravid c Ranebunga b Heithurushighe. S R Tenduker c Kaluvilharana b Vass

Azharuddin c Hathurusinghe

Total (7 wids dec).

30-4-125-1, Upasheriths 28-3-94-1, Halhu-nusinghe 16-3-51-1. Amold 24-5-2-94-2; Jayawardene 11-3-35-1

search

Under the scheme, 50 prima-ry schools in five regions will be encouraged to master a range of skills before progressing to tournaments and camps. Banks said: 'Cricket is not played sufficiendy in schools and it shows. We have to go back to grass roots. I am looking for an upsurge in interest.
"We are producing bowlers and batsmen from the black community, but we are not identifying Asian talent in this country. That is what is miss-

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See page 47 of *metro* tomorrow for full details and Token 1.

CHANGING TIMES

Gough leads by example

CHRISTCHURCH (New Zealand Under-19 won toss): England Under-19 beat New Zealand Under-19 by two wickets

MICHAEL GOUGH'S reputaoon was further enhanced vesterday with a masterful hundred in this, the first of three one-day internationals (John Stern writes). The England Under-19 cap-

tain excelled in the four-day internationals against New Zealand, making 116 and 69 in Wellington. His stature at the top of the order in both forms of the game was exemplified at Hagley Oval, where he made

105 from 131 balls. After he was stumped in the 39th over, Matt Bulbeck, who had taken two key New Zealand wickets, saw England home with four balls to spare.

Vaughan puts new spin on his worth

SCOREBOARD FROM COLOMBO

FROM THRASY PETROPOULOS IN JOHANNESBURG

WANDERERS (first day of four; England A won toss): England A have scored 263 for four wickets against Gauteng

ON THE face of it, Michael Vaughan's innings of 76 in a commanding opening partner ship of 151 with Darren Maddy appeared to be the England A captain's chief contribution to a successful opening day to his side's four-day match against Gauleng. Of greater value, however, was his winning the toss for the eighth time out of nine on this

Granted first use of a slow pitch that is already favouring the spinners. England made steady progress yesterday, despite a midday hiccup in which they lost three wickets for 13 runs in 20 balls.

Vaughan and Maddy, unable to score freely against well-directed bowling, waited for the short ball, which they were able to pull and cut. Both moved to half-centu-

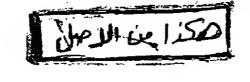
ries with few alarms and it was a surprise when Maddy was leg-before for 73, pulling at the wrist spinner, Goolam Bodi. In the next over, Robert Key was caught behind off Wayne Kidwell and when Vaughan pulled Bodi to deep mid-wicket, England were in danger of throwing away a promising position.

Matthew Windows became Bodi's third victim when he slapped a full toss to cover. but Andrew Flintoff and Virkram Solanki saw to it that no further wickets were lost. with Flintoff in commanding form towards the close.

School star under way

TONY BANKS, the Minister for Sport, yesterday launched an initiative to induce more schoolchildren to take up cricket (Ivo Tennant writes). He also called on county clubs to show more encouragement in attracting potencial stars from Asian backgrounds.

ing at county level."



GOLF: O'MEARA AND ELS AMONG THOSE TO SUFFER SWIFT EXITS FROM MATCHPLAY EVENT

Big names are sent tumbling on a day of surprises

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT IN CARLSBAD, CALIFORNIA

MATCHPLAY is a form of golf that can deliver spectacularly unpredictable results — is is the very nature of an 18-hole match that a less skilful player can often bear his more fancied opponent. But no one believed that there could be as many upsets as occurred in the first round of the Andersen Consulting Match Play Championship here at La

This resort is a hedonisi's playground that is alleged to have been built by money from the pension fund of the Teamsters Union. Jimmy Hoffa, the notorious head of the union, disappeared in mysterious circumstances about 20 years ago. The departure from this \$5 million event (about £3 million) of so many of the leading players so early in the competition is only marginally less surprising.

Of the 32 matches played in the first round, 17 were won by the golfer seeded lower than his opponent. Some of the big-gest names in golf were rushing to the airport to fly home and ponder whether they lost because they had either played poorly, been beaten by the better golfer on the day or been

Mark O'Meara was omnipresent last year, winning the Masters and Open before defeating Tiger Woods in a thrilling world match play championship final at Went-worth. He failed to reproduce that form here and was beaten by Michael Bradley, probably the least well-known of all the American players in the field Instead of setting his sights on further glory, O'Meara found heading to Deer Valley. Utah. to rejoin his family on a skiing holiday.

Davis Love III. who won the US PGA Championship in 1997 was humbled by Steve Pare, but he was in good company as 12 of the top 20 players in the world made

premature exits. Ernie Els, of South Africa. had been in rampant form this year coming into this tournament. having enjoyed two victories and one second place in

the four events in which he

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greatest choice in

had competed. Nevertheless, he was defeated by Paul Azinger, sealing his own fate when driving into the rough on the 18th and losing by one

Why did Lee Westwood and Colin Montgomerie play so badly? The fact that they have played only five tournaments between them in 1999 suggests they are short of match practice. Craig Stadler mastered Montgomerie while the gifted, if slightly erratic, Eduardo Romero gave Westwood no chance. The writing was on the wall for Westwood when he took four putts on the 4th.

The victory of Andrew Magee over Darren Clarke was less surprising, because Clarke has not played well this year. However, the manner of his defeat will not have pleased Clarke as Magee went round in an approximate 76. four over par.

lan Woosnam, having been beaten by Scott Hoch, sought first a timetable to return home as quickly as possible and then someone to treat his sore shoulder,

One of the few Europeans to triumph was José Maria Olazábal, despite his failure to drive accurately. The rest of the Spaniard's game was up to scraich, however, and that enabled him to brush aside Billy Mayfair. He was also helped by the fact that May-



Nick Price misses a putt at the 2nd during his second-round game with Jeff Maggert

fair putted badly. "How I was level with Billy after nine holes I do not know," Olazábal said. "I didn't think you could miss as many drives as I did today and get away with it but I did. But that's matchplay."

Thomas Bjorn, of Denmark, a leading light for Europe in the 1997 Ryder Cup. showed dogged determination in overcoming Brian Watts by one hole.

Patrick Sjoland, who is ex-

sobering day. FIRST ROUND (United States unless stated): L Westwood (GB) tost to E Romero (Arg.) 3 and 2; C Montgomene (GB) lost to C (Arg) 3 and 2; C Montgomene (GB) lost to C Stadler 5 and 3; E Is (SA) lost to IP Asinger 1 hole, H Sutton lost to L Roberts 5 and 4; G Norman (Aus) bit J Cook 3 and 2; J Hauton bt R Estes 3 and 2; J Parnevik (Swe) lost to C Pany (Aus) 1 hole, P Stewart lost to S Cirk, 3 and 2; S Hoch bit I Woosnam (GB) 3 and 2; O Clarker (GB) lost to A Magee 1 hole, T Woods bit N Fatbo (GB) 4 and 3; P Couples bit O Hart 2 holes, S Elkington (Aus) lost to 5 Junes 2 and 1; T Watson lost to R twey 6 and 4. T Lehman lost to S Verphank 3 and 1; O Duval bit S Leeney (Aus) 2 and 1; A Diuman lost to B Jobe 3 and 2, M O'Meara lost to M Bradfey 4 and 2; J M Glazbni (Sp) bit W Maylar S and 3; O Love lost to S Pate 1 hole. B Watter lost to T Ejorn (Den) 1 hole

pected to do well for Europe in

the Ryder Cup this year, was a

revelation. It was known that

he is a good matchplayer, a gifted golfer with a wonderful short game, but the way he outplayed Jim Furyk provided

one of very few bright spots for Europe on an otherwise

LINKS.

WEBSITE www.pgatour.com TELEVISION: Sky Sports 2. 7pm (five)

Soldini in pole position after leader loses mast

By Edward Gorman, Sailing Correspondent

THE demolition derby that is the Around Alone Race Class I fleet claimed another victim yesterday with Marc Thiercelin. the class leader. reporting that his Open 60. Somewhere, had been dismasted in the south Atlantic. Two of six starters have now heen dismasted, one has capsized, one has run aground and one has given up.

Bernhard Langer follows a drive during his second-round match with Vijay Singh

Although Thiercelin was not thought to be in immediate danger, his only remaining rival in the class. Giovanni Soldini, in Fifa - who already has Isabelle Autissier on board after rescuing her when her boat capsized might yet have to pick up Thiercelin as well.

This could be interesting. Over the past three days, Thiercelin and Autissier have been having a row via e-mail and the French press over the former's allegations that Autissier's presence on Soldini's boat was making the race unfair, spiced up with his disparaging views on her sailing ability. Bewildered race officials in the United States were playing down the chance of a

second rescue, however. Dan Miller, a spokesman for the race, said Thiercelin's mast had failed in about 30 knots of wind off the south Argentine coast in "ugly seas". The broken end of the mast had pierced the deck of Somewhere, but the boat was

not in danger of sinking. Thiercelin later told officials that he plans to continue the race, if at all possible. Last night he was waiting for conditions to moderate before

heading towards Port Stanley in the Falkland Islands. where he will liaise with his shore team. They are in the region after Thiercelin's stop two days ago to repair the gooseneck fitting on his boat. Thibault Derville, a team

member, said Thiercelin had repaired the hole in the deck. Thiercelin was about 100 miles ahead of Soldini at the time of the dismasting. although he started the third leg from Auckland to Punte del Este with an overall advantage over him of 1S hours.

How he is going to sort out a new mast or repair the existing one in time to finish this leg and then make the start of the next one is far from clear. If Thiercelin is forced to retire. Soldini will be left in glorious

isolation as the only racer. But officials emphasised that in order to win the race, he must complete this leg and the final one from Punte to Charleston. Meanwhile, in Paris, plans for a "Formula One Championship of the Sea" were announced yesterday, involving

eight one-design yachts in a series of races in Europe for

total prize-money of \$740,000.

The Adecco World Championship - proposed by Pierre Fehlmann, the veteran Swiss vachtsman and businessman backed by an Italian multimillionaire - is to feature the Fart-designed 80-foot maxis built for the Grand Mistral Race, which never took place. The first venue is the North Sea regatta in Holland in May: the last, Cowes Week.

WORD-WATCHING Answers from page 55

(a) A part of the helmet serving as a guard for the nose. The 11thcentury French word, borrowed from late Latin. The king Arouns helde hervy by the nasel of the helme." POLYPRAGMATIC

(b) Busying oneself about many affairs (that are not one's own). Meddlesome, officious. The Greek words mean "busy about many things".

NIGON (c) A miser or niggard, in the ludicrously politically incorrect word. It would be as silly to ban Whiting as a name for a fish, because it sounds like Whitey. PARASANG

(c) A Persian measure of length, usually reckoned as equal to between three and three-and-a-half miles, reckoned by Herodotus, as equal to 30 stadia. Taking the stadium as 600 feet, this would make the parasang less than three-and-a-half miles.

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE Solution: I Bxg6+! Kxg6 2 Qg4+! Kxh6 (2 ... Kf7 3 Qg7 mate) 3 Re3 and mate follows on the h-file

TELEVISION CHOICE

Two women in a boat

Murder Most Horrid: Going Solo BBC2.9pm

Paul Smith, who wrote The Brittas Empire, here Paul Smith, who wrote The Britas Emptre, here creates a monster even more aggravating than his health centre manager in Tracy (Dawn French), whose least irritating habit might be her compulsion to sing the Barbie song under her breath. Tracy is entering a two-handed round-theworld yacht race, parinered by Karen (Sarah Lancashire). She ignores or otherwise treats with contempt her easygoing husband (Jim Carter) and the two women set off on the race, Karen becoming more and more anerty with her companion. Tracy more and more angry with her companion. Trucy more and more appalling. When the two are trapped in the hull of the capsized vessel, it grad-ually becomes clear that each has a different perception of the weeks preceding the trip. Will both survive and be rescued? Smith's script may be less than original in its plotting, but in a Tales of the Unexpected fashion, this is good, black fun.

BBC2, 7.30pm The cononuing story of some not very ordinary country folk. Woburn Abbey's Lord and Lady Tavistock are, however, completely fascinating. Tonight she is following the progress of her coffin, which is being built for her in the workshop. The dimensions seem a little vague, but it will do splendidly for storing her wool until she is ready to take up residence. Meanwhile, the fact that an earth-extraction excavation on the estate may spoil the view of some expensive new houses is getting locals rather excited. But the money it may bring in is absolutely vital to the survival of the whole place.

Frasier

Channel 4, 10pm

The emphasis is firmly on the puncturing of pretensions in tonight's episode, as Frasier and Niles attempt to impress the Gourmet Society by hosting a dinner. Circumstances force them to relocate to Maris's beach house (she's out of town, having her

ethows remodelled, and is unaware of their plant. Everything is fine, except that, just outside the house, a dead seal has been washed up. Cue increasingly Laurel and Hardy-like efforts to remove the dead creature, involving one of Maris's peignoirs, a small boat and a lamp made from an anchor. Then stir in some nosy neighbours, a precious chef and a terrier-like policeman.

Never Mind the Buzzcocks BBC2.9.30pm

Tonight's guests are Frank Skinner, Kate Thornton, Rick Wakeman and, from Morcheeba, Paul Godfrey. They will be joining Phill Jupis, and Sean Hughes in attempting to ansatz questions or perform rudimentary musical "torfeits" as set by the chairman, Mark Lamarr. Although Lamarr's smart-alec manner (it goes with that oily-looking quiff) can be offputting, his guests on this show seem to relish the snider guests on this show seem to relish the snidey comments and putdowns, while his (or his re-searchers) knowledge of pop music arcana is awe-some. One has to expect Skinner to give as good as he gets in these circumstances, while Wakeman is also an in-demand after-dinner speaker and should be no pushover. Tony Patrick

More musical irreverence with Hughes, Lamarr and Jupitus (BBC2, 9.30pm)

(bows remodelled, and is unaware of their plant

RADIO CHOICE

The Friday Play: Cribb and the Black Radio 4, 9.00pm

Steve Walker's play is an absorbing and graphic account of two real encounters: the bare-knuckle boxing contest at East Grinstead in 1810 beween Tom Molineaux, a black American former slave, Tom Molineaux, a black American former slave, and Tom Cribb, the reigning world champion, and the subsequent rematch. Molineaux arrived in England with no money but was taken under the wing of Bill Richmond, a quick-thinking and perceptive man who was the only other black boxer in Britain at the time. The play is full of hard verbal imagery ("punched so hard his eyes... quite lost inside his head") but it is also a tale of two sponsors: against Richmond is ranged the MP Captain Barclay, who takes a grossly overweight Cribb and turns him into a fighting machine.

RADIO 1 (BBC)

8.30mm Scott Mills 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00pm Jo Whiley 2.00 Mark Radoliffe 4.00 Chrls Moyles 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Peta Tong's Essential Selection 9.00 Judge Jules 11.00 Radio 1 Rap Show 2.00mm Fabia and Grooverider 4.00 Clive Warren

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogen 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00pm John Inverdale 2.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Des Lynam 7.00 Morley at the Musicals (4/6) 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night 9.15 John le Carre's Single and Single. A radia adaptation of the new novel (1/6) 9.30 Listen to the Band 10.00 David Jacobs 10.30 Sheridan Morley 11.45 The People's Psalms 12.00am Lynn Persons 4.00 Lata Sharma

RADIO S LIVE (BBC)

5.00cm Morning Reports 6.00 Breaklast 9.00 Nicky Campbell. Topical phone-in, plus the letest Euronews 12.00pm The Midday News with Alian Robb 1.00 Ruscoe and Co 4.00 Drive with Peter Alian and Jane Garvey 7.00 News Eutra. Presented by Susan Bookbinder 7.30 Alan Green's Sportsnight. Brian Moore and studio guests discuss the week's sporting issues, and second-half commentary from Vicarage Road on Watford v Swindon Town 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00cm Up Ali Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Big Boys Bréaklast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Raebum 3.00 CKI to Talk 5.00 SportZone 8.00 Jackie Mason Live from New York 10.00 Dave Barrett 1.00em Mike Dickin

VIRGIN

6.30am Chris Evans 9.30 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Harriet Scott 7.00 Wheels of Steel 11.00 Janey Lee Grace

Stephen Fry in Ugandan Discussions Radio 4, 11.00am

month's Comic Relief extravaganza and Fry's highly personal memoir of a trip to Uganda for the highly personal memoir of a trip to Uganda for the charity is a necessary reminder of the ravages that Aids has visited upon Africa. There are more than \$0.000 people in Uganda with Aids and another 930,000 who are HIV posidive; this out of a population of only 19 million. Clearly Fry's journey has had an important impact on his own attitudes and his visit to a family that Tony Robinson first met for Comic Relief seven years ago was a sobering experience. Then, both parents had Aids; now, both are dead and the family are one of many in Uganda that are now child-headed — Vincent; aged 16, is the oldest. Peter Barnard

BBC WORLD SERVICE

5.00am The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Outlook 7.55
My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 Westway 8.20 Off the Shelf:
Captain Corell's Mandolin 8.36 Science in Action 9.00 World
News 9.05 The Art of Translating 9.20 John Peel 9.50 Sports
Round-Up 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Britain Today 10.45 Your
Questions Of Faith 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Focus on Faith
12.00pm World News 12.05 Outlook 12.45 Sports Round-Up
1.00 Newshour 2.00 World News 2.05 Science in Action 2.30
Best on Record 3.00 World News 3.05 Sports Round-Up
1.01 Newshour 2.00 World News 3.05 Sports Round-Up
1.03 The New Europ e 4.30 Multitrack: Alternative 5.00 Europe
Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Round-Up
6.00 World News 6.15 Britain Today 6.30 Focus on Faith 7.00
World News 7.05 Science in Action 7.30 Your Question Of
Faith 7.45 Off the Shelf: Captain Coredit's Mandolin 8.00
Newshour 9.00 World News 9.05 World Business Report 9.20
Britain Today 9.30 Best on Record 10.00 World News 10.15 estrem roday 9.30 Best on Récord 10.00 World News 10.15 Sports Round-Up 10.30 Multitractic Alternative 11.00 World News 11.05 Outlook 11.45 Insight 12.00am The World Today 12.30 Science in Action 12.55 My Century 1.00 The World Today 1.30 Maridian Books 2.00 The World Today 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 The World Today 3.20 Sports Round-Up 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 Weekend

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Balley's Easier Breaklast. Music to get the day off to a fine start 8.00 Henry Kelly. The Hall of Fame Hour and Classic Masterpiece 12.00pm Lunchtime Requests. Jan Montham plays favounte music 2.00 Concerto. Vaughan Williams (Oboe Concerto) 3.00 Jame Cnck. Continuous Williams (Oboe Concerto) 3.00 Jame Cnci. Continuous Classics, plus sport updales and travel news 6.30 Newsnight 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces classic sounds 9.00 Evening Concert Mandelssofm (Hebrides Overture, Fingal's Cave; Estract, A Midsummer Night's Dream); Vivaldi (Flute Concerto in 0, The Goldfinch); Camarose (Concerto for Two Flutes), Beethoven (Symphony No 2) 11.00 Mann at Night 2.00em Concerto. Vaughan Williams (Oboe Concerto) (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths. The Early Breakfast Show

4.45 Music Machine What does the internet and other digital media mean for the record industry and the

6.00am On Air Petroc Trelawny with arts news and music. Includes Musisorgsky (Night on the Bare Mountain); Luigi Rossi (il pecator pentito). Beethoven I Piano Sonata in E fat, Op 27 No 1, Quasi una tantassa), Respighi (Suite: The Birds) 9.00 Massierworks with Peter Hobday Includes Rossin (Overture: The Theeying Magpie). Nelsen (Wind Ouritet): Fasch (Concerto in D for two oboes, two bassoons and two homs). Schubert (Plano Sonata in D. D850) 10.30 Artist of the Weelc Pascal Roge 11.00 Sound Stories: Planets — Plato Richard Baker investigates musical treatments of Pluto 12.00pm Composer of the Weelc Copland 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert Palladian Ensemble. Marco Uccetin (Sonata No 12 in Aminor): Jean-Fery Rebel (Les caracteres de la danse), Francesco Corbetta (Suite in C): Nicola Marses (Suite of Ayrs) (i) 2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Symphony Orchestra under Martyn Brabbirs, Andrew Davis and Jin Belohlavek, Nadja Salemo-Sonnberg, violin. Rossin (Overture: William Tell). Shostakovich (Violin Concerto No 1); Glinka (Capriccio britante): Shostakovich (Symphony No 15) 4.00 Music Restored Luce Skeaping introduces settings of the love poetry of Francesco Petrarca by Dufay. Lassus, Monteverol. Marenzio and others

RADIO 4

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day 5.47 Ferming Today Rachel Morgan presents 6.00 Today with John Humphrys and Sue MacGregor 9.00 Desert Island Discs The opera singer Mana Ewing joins Sue Lawley (rt 9.45 (FM) Soriat The Spirit Wrestiers Final part (r)

9.45 (FM) Soriat: The Spirit Wrestiers Final part (r)
9.45 (LW) An Act of Worship
10.00 Women's Hour with Jenn Marray
11.00 Stephen Fry in Ugandar Discussions The
actor's trip to Uganda last year to assess how
Cornic Relief money is being opent. See Choice
11.30 Surary Side Up The quartet by out a new lead
singer at a wedding reception — with he get over
his nerves? By Scott Cherry, staming Keith Barron,
Bryan Pringle and Chive Swift (3/6)
12.00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.00pm (FM) News 12.04 You and Yours Consumer
states and public service reports, presented by

assues and public service raports, presented by

ssues and public service reports, presented by Liz Barciay and John Warle

1.00 The World at One with Nack Clarke

1.30 Puzzie Panel Chris Maslanka presents notices and bran-leasers

2.00 The Archers Yesterday's edition (n

2.15 Attention Play: Larkinse and Beyond Flora Thompson's evication of late 19th-century country lite. The men gather in the harvest and Laura collects money for Queen Victiona's Jubilee With Maggie Steed and Lewis Dodge (3/3)

3.00 Changling Places Howard Stableford meets residents who have transformed areas of Dudley and Oldham

3.30 Ne and Ny Sidecar Sidecar bride Philippa Budgen explores the hidden pleasures of this

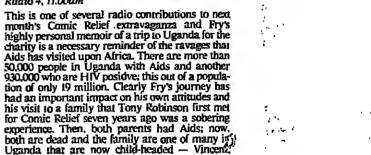
Budgen explores the hidden pleasures of this ndiculed mode of transport it?

3.45 This Sceptred liste Part 40 of the history of Budgen and his American Part and his American Part and his American Part and his American Part and history of Budgen and his American Part and his American Part and history of Budgen and history of Budgen and history of Budgen and his American Part and his American Part and history of Budgen and history of the Budgen and history o Britain, namated by Anna Massey

4.00 Writer's Masterclass Stake Morrison talks to

8.00 Any Questions? From Sandwich, Kent. Jonathan Dimbleby is joined by guests including Val Evans of the Women's National Commission and the MPs Michael Howard and Gerald Kaufman 8.45 Letter from America by Aistlar Cooke 9.00 The Friday Play: Cribb and the Black Steve Walker's story of the greatest bare-knuckle bowing match of the 19th century — between English champson Tom Cribb and freed slave Tom Molineaus. See Choice 10.00 The World Tondight 10.45 Book at Bectime: Poet Captain The final part of Patrick O'Bren's rautical novel (r) 11.00 Late Night on 4: Late Tackle Eleanor Oldroyd and guests talk about the week's sporting events 11.30 (LW) Today in Partiament Westminster 11.30 (FM) Not the Short One at the Back with the Glasses Tribe Rawlinson investigales the psychological effects on children of not being picked for games at school 12.00am News 12.30 The Late Book; Sam Peckin-

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.5; LW 196; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 933, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197. 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1033, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John Mediana.



Confession

4.45 Music Machine What does the internet and other digital media mean for the record industry and the record-buying public?

5.00 In Turne Sean Rafferty investigates a new concert hall near Helsinko built entirely of wood?

7.30 Performance on 3: Beyond Our Shores — A Night at the Chinese Opera Live from the Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow. Timothy Robinson, tenor, Michael Chance, countertenor, Michael George, bass, Scottish CO under Andrew Parrott

9.15 Postseript: Doctors of Philosophry — Nietzsche with Alain de Botton (5/5)

9.35 Telemann (Concerto No 1 in G, Paris Quartets). Wilbert Hazetzet, llute, Trio Somene

10.00 Paragon Ensemble: Beyond Our Shores Steve Reich's minimalist masterplace Orumning is performed by the Paragon Ensemble as part of this week's testival in Glasgow

11.30 Jazz Century (Sounding the Century) Russell Davies presents a 52 part history oil jazz (r)

12.00um Composer of the Week: Divorak (r)

1.00 Through the Night with Donald Macleod. 1.00 Bach (Si Marthew Passion). Performed by soloists, chors. Lucerne Collegium Musicum, Collegium Musicum, Collegium Musicum 90 under Alois Koch 3.50 let Stants (String Quartet No 2) 4.10 Sport (Nonet in F. Op 311 4.40 Frank Martin (Ballade) 5.00 Mozart (Sinlonia concertante in E flat, K364) 5.40 Glazuriov (Concert Weitz No 2) 5.50 Anna of Cologne (Maria suesse metchdekyn)

David Lodge and Jane Rogers about the craft of adapting novels for television and radio (2/3) (f)
4.30 The Message Alex Brodie and his guests discuss current media trends
5.00 PM with Chris Lowe and Eddie Mair
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 The Sunday Format John Morton's comedy about the stories generated by a licitious weekend newspaper. Starring Rebecca Front, Simon Greenall and Tony Gerdher (2/4)
7.00 The Archers Sid puts his toot in it
7.15 Front Row Live arts programme
7.45 The Cry of the Bittern by Tim Jackson.
Broadcast earlier as part of Woman's Hour (f)
8.00 Any Questions? From Sandwich, Kent. Jonathan Dimbleby is joined by guests including Val Evans

psychological effects on children of not being picked for games at school

12.00am News 12.30 The Late Book: Sam Peckinpah: If it Moves — Kill "Em Bill Hootkins reads the final part of David Weddle's biography (f)

12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

Confess-all series is not for the TV faithful

nfidelity (FIV) is a self-con-fessed, confessional, human soundbites from "experts" who are fessed, confessional, human interest documentary. "I know I use people and betray them," the programme confessed last night. "Some people say it's wrong, but I just can't help it."

fust can't neip it.

Fact: our exclusive survey reveals that nine out of every ten human interest documentaries nisert captions bearing meaningless statistics, taken from dubious 'exclusive surveys".

"The trouble is it's just too easy," the programme admits. "All you have to do is put an ad in the papers saying. To you want to appear on telly and talk about your sex life so millions of people can gawp at you? and before you know it you've got more offers than you can shake one of those big, furry mikes at. Take those hlokes last night talking about cheating on their wives and girlfriends. They were gagging for it! " Fact: 52 out of every 54 "confesas desperate to get on telly as the. 'coofessors".
"All you have to do then is bung

All you have to do then is bung in a few so-called experts talking a load of old tripe they just made up off the top of their beads," said the programme. "We got that Adam Rayner off of Maxim lads' mag on last night. You can tell be's Claire's son 'cause if you put him in a dress, he'd look just like her. Come to think of it, maybe it was her dragged up."

Fact: seven out of every eight people "confessing" on television, barely disguise the fact that they are dead pleased with themselves. "It's much more fun confessing on telly than to, say, a Roman Catholic priest who might make

you sit in church and say some reli-

gious stuff," reflects one of the

programme's "victims." (He wish-

es to remain anonymous on the

ground that I have just made him

up. But it applies to all of them.) "If you confess on telly, the lads down the pub think you're the business." Fact: three out of every four confessional documentaries use ideas which have appeared in Cosmopolitar every three months since 1972.

Given that so many adults in relationships have "cheated" at some time or other, Infidelity could raise issues which are both uncomfortable and thought-provoking for many viewers. Don't worry! It doesn't! Next week: "Women Who Want To Appear On Television Talking Ar ... Cheating On Their Men."

his newspaper ouite properly avoids the gratuitous use of offensive language. Sadly this means that it is impossible to quote a single utterance from super-chef Gordon Ramsay, star of Channel 4's latest docusoap. Ramsay's Boiling Point. Unless 1

REVIEW

bing arm-hose! To say that he

swears like a trooper would be

unfair to troopers. Troopers talk like Jane flubbing Austen

compared with Ramsay.



replace them with silly words. The fact is that Gordon flubbing Ramsay is the most foul-mouthed fluhbing muddle-flubber who ever sacked a chief-under-sous-com-mis-chef for failing to buy in enough flubbing salad, you flub-

Paul

He was a footballer at Glasgow Rangers before he became one of the finest chefs in Britain and made his Aubergine a place of pilgrimage. This is a career move comparable to an all-in wrestler becoming a pianist, or Bernard Manning becoming a comic.

المرازي والمرازي والمنطق والمعاملات والمستحدد والمنافض والمعارض والمعارض والمعارض والمعارض والمعارض والمعارض

Tired of working for a faceless business, and chasing his third Michelin star, he opened his own restaurant and we joined him for the hectic opening dinner. That very night Ramsay starred in a secretly shot Granada documentary on Britain's worst bosses from hell, where three million viewers saw him bullying his staff.

In fact, the more you watched him, the more his wrath seemed understandable. The waiter who turned up in an immaculate dinner jacket with a bright blue sticking plaster in the middle of a finger shortly to appear before the diner's noses, did indeed seem like a stupid flubbing jerk.

Neither was it clever to buy insufficient salad ingredients for the opening night. And I expect, on reflection, the Maitre d' ("Fatso!"), might feel he should have checked that the extractor system was working properly so that the temperature in the kitchen didn't rocket to 138C in the shade.

nyway, all publicity is good A publicity, runters was an interest their grannies to enjoy the publicity. Punters will kill special frisson of sitting in that calm, restful diningroom, knowing that beyond the service doors is a sweltering Orwellian inferno of raging profanities. Mind you, people often appear

on docusoaps because they hope they will become media celebrities. Perhaps Ramsay, who is clearly star material, is secretly hoping for a glittering career as a wheel-clamper. Next week A. A. Gill and Joan Collins are asked to "Flub off!" According to the pre-publicity. Chris Barrie, who has returned for the eighth series of Red Dwarf, relishes the show's "genuine indi-viduality" in the ever more "bland" television landscape. This presumably includes Barrie's own dire sitcom. A Prince Among Men.

He is right, though. The show has always had a claustrophobic feel, with Lister and Rimmer trapped in each other's company like Tony Hancock and Sid James on a wet Sunday afternoon. Last week's first episode reprised this mood, before the Starbug crashed on to a reconstituted Red Dwarf in a shower of new characters and snazzy special effects.

The original concept owed everything to Douglas Adams, but the style is now its own, playing wantonly with the laws of astrophysics and mixing oneliners with parody, witty allusions, farce, slapstick and groansome puns. Non-stop fun for little boys from

BBC1 6.00am Business Breakfast (14152)

7.00 Breakfast News (1) (50881) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (8550997)

9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) (4959572) 10.55 News; Weather (T) (6021336) 11.00 Change That (60317.13) 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (6001572)

11_55 News; Weather (T) (1291959) ---12.00pm Call My Bluff (21220) 12.30 Wipsout (7619161) 12.55 The Weather Show (1) (48757423) 1.00 One O'Clock News (1) (60268)

1.30 Regional News; Weather (47479591) 1.40 Neighbours (1) (25365046) 2.05 ironside (r) (3412607)

2.55 Through the Keyhole (r) (T) (5766997) 3.25 Children's BBC: Phycleys (6689626) 3.45 Spider (2542930) 3.50 Smart on the Road (3807930) 4.05 Rugrals (6761626) 4.30 L. & K. Friday (5445220) 4.55 Newsround Edra (1985065) 5.10 Blue Peter (6536201)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (393242) 6.00 Stx O'Clock News; Weather (T) (997) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (249)

7.00 Adam. Wide's Fame Factory The entertainment agent tries to find the right performers for his show (1) (3046) 7.30 Top of the Pops : With music : from N-Sync; the Corrs; Lauryn Hill; Lucid; and

Britney Spears (T) (133) 8.00 Ground Force The team renovate a Torquay garden (3/8) (1) (2794)

8.30 The Builders New fly-on-the-wall documentary series (1/8) (T) (1201) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News;

Weather (T), (9065) 9.30 Parkinson With the stage and screen star Diana Rigg, the Scottish actor and comedian Robbie Coltrane and the comedian Eddie Izzard (T) (744220)



Goldie Hawn stars es an unlikely US Army recruit (10.25pm)

starring Goldie Hawn as a scatterbrained widow who enlists in the US Army in the hope of lorgetting her woes. Directed by Howard Zieff (T) (114881)

12.10am Jasoer Carrott: Back to the Front Stand-up comedy (1/6) (r) (T) (7845824) 12.35 Victor/Victoria (1982) Blake Edwards': satire, staming Julie Andrews as a failed singer who poses es a female impersonator to gain success on the Paris cabaret circuit. Directed by Blake

Edwards (T) (98349398) 2.45 Weather (4832534) 2.50 BBC News 24 (13049973)

10.25 Just Up Your Street (2/5) (273442) 11.00 Fil.M: Private Benjamin (1) (462065) 12.45am Jasper Carrott: Back to the Front (1/6) (1) (1) (36060) 1.15 Fil.M: Victor/Victoria (T) (57871553) 3.25 News (T) (98735060) 3.30-7.00 BBC News 24 (9984282)

SKY BOX OFFICE

The Postman (1997)

FILMFOUR

SKY PREMIER

SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60)

SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transporter ou)
Good Will Hunding (1997)
SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59)
Good Burger (1997)
As Good as it Gebs (1997)
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58).

8.00pm Short. Alexation Span Cinema (894830) 3.00 Beautiful Thing (1995) (9172201) 8.30 Traver (7088336) 10.00 Prench Kas (1995) (4524046) 12.00pm Frestor (1932) (4682027) 1.00 Tokyo Fiel (1996) (7022) 14682027) 1.00 Tokyo Fiel (1996) (7022) 159 3.30 Polit Break (1991) (45153814) 4.35 Bouds Saved from Drowning (1932) (8380640) 6.00 Close

8.00mm Thm Stone Boy (1984) (11775) 6.00 Sogus (1986) (55852) 16.00 The Boy from Mercury (1996) (90852) 12.00mm Martin's (1996) (90852) Wonders (1986) (79713) 2.00 The Stone Boy (1984) (31133) 4.00 Bogum (1985) (1161) 8.00 The Boy from Mercury (1996) (51997) 6.00 Addicted to Love (1997) (56442) 10.00 Fleet (1986)

7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show:
Hairy Jeremy (3717046) 7.05 Teletubbies (683568) 7.30 Shorks (8720161) 7.50
Short Change (8490775) 8.18 Rewind (9657681) 8.20 Taz-Mania (7506336), 8.40 Polika Dot Shorts (3585084) 8.50
Hairy Jeremy (3561268) 9.00 Storytime with Signing 1730571) 9.10 See You, See Me (4305881) 9.30 Numbertime (1497626) 9.45 Come Dutside (1485881) 10.00 Teletubbies (14591) 10.30 Megamaths (7444442) 10.50 Look and Read (7431978), 11.10 Landmarks (4511305) 11.30 English File (8572) 12.00pm Scene (29862) 12.30 Working Linch (54046) 1.00 Johnson and Friends (94730713)

1.10 The Travel Hour (r) (9494775) 2.10 International Tennis: The Guardian Direct Cup Sue Barker introduces quarter-final coverage (752688)

4.00 Kaye (6760997) 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (1) (6763084)
4.35 Esther Studio debete elmed at trying to define sex appeal (1) (3007065)
5.30 Today's the Day (1) (626)
6.00 The Simpsons (1) (1) (179779)
6.20 The Simpsons (1) (1) (579715)

6.45 Robot Wars Craig Charles and Philippa Forrester present the second semi-final (I) (637238)

7.15 Electric Circus Round-up of the letest entertainment news (T) (950355) Country House Lady Tavistock's coffin takes shape

In the workshop (T) (775)
8.00 Trust Me, I'm a Doctor Donna Bernard follows a phobic through behavioural therapy designed to cure his irrational fear of crossing bridges (T) (4256) 8.30 Gardeners' World Pippa Greenwood creates a kitchen garden (T) (2171)



High-seas histrionics with Sarah

9.00 CHECK Murder Most Horrid An unlikely duo set off on a round-the-world yacht race (T) (7607) 9.30 CHOICE Never Mind the Buzzcocks
With guest panellists Rick
Wakernan and Frank Skinner (T) (67510)

10.00 The Young Ones The tads are attacked by a vampire (r) (7) (20591) 10.30 Newsnight With Kirsty Wark (1) (760688) 11.13 Video Nation Shorts (T) (201775) 11.15 Births, Marriages and Deaths Drama

starring Ray Winstone, Mark Strong and Philip Davis (r) (T) (922591) 12.05am Les Quatre Cents Coups (1958) François : Truffaut's portrayal of childhood, following the experiences of a 12-year-old Parisian boy. With Jean-Pierre Leaud and Claire Maurier Directed by François Truffaut (295076) 1.40 Later with Jools Holland With Pulp, Air

and Lenny Kravitz (r) (8137282) 2.40 Weather (4831805) 2.45 Close 3.00 BBC Learning Zone: GCSE Revision: Geography 3 (13911) 5:00 Close 5.30am (TN Morning News (50442) 6.00 GMTV (7174798)

9.25 Trishs (T) (5910423) 10.30 This Morning (T) (11017930) 12.15pm HTV News (T) (7693959) 12.30 TTN Lunchtime News (1) (41572)

12.59 HTV Crimestoppers (48742591) 1.00 WEST: Shortland Street Kirsty is in for a shock (55336) 1.00 WALES: Wish You Were Here? Chicago, Thailand, Croatia and the Costa Blanca (r) (T) (55336)

1.30 Home and Away (1) (73171) 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (*) (5338862) 2.45 Supermarket Sweep (*) (446510) 3.15 ITN News Headlines (*) (1709664) 3.20 HTV News (T) (4959387)

3.25 CTTV: Mopatop'a Snop (5109620) 3.35 Timbuctoo (3620881) 3.45 Aritmat Stories (2568978) 3.55 Giggly Bitzi



A new game show hosted by Andy Collins and Julia Bradbury (4.15pm)

4.15 Pump It Up A new action-packed game show for younger viewers (782387) 4.45 Comin' Atchia (5468171)

5.10 A Country Practice Anna solves a dog's mystery illness (9276591) 5.40 TTN Early Evening News (1) (682881) 8.00 Home and Away Joey attacks Irene (1)

(T) (924510) 6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (1) (438930) 6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (263046) 6.30 WEST: The West Tonight (T) (317)

7.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right Game show (6/16) (1) (1442) 7.30 Coronation Street Kevin takes chastic action (T) (201)

B.DD Airline Check-in supervisor Jane Boulton hes the unfortunate task of dealing with yet another ticket mix-up (8/8) (1) (7862) 8.30 Days Like These Avisit from royalty stirs the boys into showing what they're made

9.00 Britain's Worst Pets Documentary footage of the nightmare behaviour some pet owners have to deal with, rom the labrador which ate its owner's life savings, to the python that swallowed a Jack Russell(T) (9317)

10.00 News at Ten; Weather (1) (24317) 10.30 HTV News and Weather (1) (450341) 10.45 Twitight Zone: The Movie (1983)

Compilation of four creepy tales. John Lithgow and Dan Aykonyd star. Directed by John Landis, Steven Spielberg, Joe Dante, George Miller (72565274) 12.40am Liverpool Victoria Cherity Snooker Challenge Highlights (2283114)

2.10 fTV at V-98 With Republica and Young Offenders (1493843) 3.10 The Haunted Fishtank (r) (80874176) 3.35 Short Story Cinema Comic story about a rebellious tecnager whose parents wash their hands of him (40713114)

4.00 Trisha (r) (T) (53350) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (1) (83911)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 Central News; Weather (T) (8085591) 1.00 Wish You Were Here? (r) (T) (55336) 1.30 The Jerry Were Here? (r) (1) (55336) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (f) (1189152)-2.15-2.45 Home and Away (f) (454639) 3.20-3.25 Central News (f) (495987) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9776591) 6.25-7.00 Central News; Weather (f) (438930) 10.30-10.40 Central News; Weather (f) (450161) 10.40-12.40 Fil.M: The Couch Trip (94471046) 2.15em Box Office America (1697331) 2.40 SeeQueet 2032 (r) (f) (3242008) 3.30 The Haunted Fishtank (r) (40714843) 3.55 Central Jobifinder '99 (f) (8020282) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (7994992) Eye (7994992)

As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.27 Westcountry News; Weather (1) (7693959) 12.27-12.30 Illuminations (8093510) 1.00 Westcountry Update (55336) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (1189152) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (f) (454539) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News; Weather (f) (4959387) 5.08 Birthday People (5878317) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (f) (9776591) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (f) (59591) 10.30-10.45 Westcountry Live (f) (460341) Westcountry News; Weather (1) (450341) 10.45 The Other Side (4/5) (331249) 11.15 Renegada (940997) 12.10am-12.40 Tales from the Darksida (6541080)

Ar TTV Wer cept: 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News; Weather (7693959) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (T) (9776591) 6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (T) (59591) 10.30 Meridian News; Weather (T) (450161) 10.40 Dream Town (435012) 11.10-12.40 FILM; Strays (603404) 5.00am-5.30 Freescreen (T) (83911)

As HTV West except: 12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (8004626) 12.20-12.30 Anglia News and Weather (8065591) 5.10-5.40 Home and and Weather (8065591) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1) (9776591) 5.59 Anglia Weather (1) -(646220) 6.00 Anglia News (1) (715) 8.30-7.00 Off the Beaten Track (5/10) (1) (317) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (180775) 10.30 Anglia News and Weather (1) (450161) 10.40-12.40 FILM: Stir Crazy (94471046)

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (r) (47140220) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (34684084) 9.00 Ysgollon: Off Limits (83652249) 9.25 Schools at Work (43998268) 9.30 Eureka (94702355) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (94790510) 10.00 The Complete Cosmos (65294249) 10.10 TVM (20128152) 10.25 laith ar Dalth (20114959) 10.45 Enter the Maths Zone (83330775) 11.00 The Technology Programme (9505220) 11.15 Pa Newydd? (95075171) 11.30 Powerhouse (I) (40166065) 12.00pm Home Improvement (I) (29083978) 12.30 Sesame Street (I) (38621065) 1.00 Planed Plant (I) (34687171) 1.30 Collectors' Lot (I) (20183078) 15.00 Planed Plant (I) (34687171) 1.30 Collectors' Lot (I) (20183078) 15.00 Planed Plant (I) (34687171) 1.30 Collectors' Lot (I) (2018307814) 15.00 Plant (I) (2018307814) 15.00 Plant (I) (2018307814) 15.00 Plant (II) (2018307814) 15.00 Plant (II) (2018307814) 15.00 Plant (III) (Plant (1) (3405717) 1.30 Collectors Lot (1) (27216249) 1.50 FiLM: Springfield Rifle (1) (62151779) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (1) (31526249) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (1) (81538 084) 4.30 Dishes (1) (31534268) 5.00 Planed Plant (64015959) 5.30 Countdown (1) (81518220) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (T) (54820442) 6.10 Heno (T) (16703249) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (T) (64028423) 7.30 Newyddion (T) (81535997) 8.00 Cefn Gwlad (T) (64037171) 8.30 Y Clwb Rygbi (T) (64023978) 9.00 Pawb a'l Fam (21068161) 10.00 Brookside (T) (1) (60725688) 10.35 Frasier (1) (56132626) 11.05 So Graham Norton (1) (47371794) 11.45 TF Friday (32860065) 12.50am 4 Later; The RuPaul Show (26820114) 1.20 Late Toon: Prodigy (39247355) 1.35 The Mod Squad (55751485) 2.35 Vids (r) (38181485) 3.05

FILM: The Deadly Game (82357621) 5.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (79602) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (43591) 9.00 Schools: Off Limits (4368249) 9.25

Schools at Work (6663510) 9.30 Eureka (1482794) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (1487249) 10.00 The Complete Cosmos (6923959) 10.10 TVM (9630442) 10.25 1798 and After (9626249) 10.45 Enter the Maths Zone (2405626) 11.00 The Technology Programme (3762959) 11.15 Stage One (8778510) 11.30 Powerhouse (1) (3268)

12.00pm Sesame Street (T) (14930) 12.30 Bewitched (r) (T) (72442)

1.00 Pet Rescue (1) (53978)
1.30 Australia Wild The female dusky scrubfowl (r) (T) (25352572)

1.55 Death Drums Along the River (1963)
An inspector is called in to investigate an
African murder and discovers a deadly diamond-smuggling operation. With Richard Todd. Directed by Lawrence Huntington (T) (46078539) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (1) (423)

4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (930) 4.30 Countdown (T) (5438930) 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (3092133) 5.30 Pet Rescue A bat is saved (T) (794)



The Brit award winners, Manic Street Preachers perform live (6pm)

6.00 TFI Friday With Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels star Nick Moran and the former Abba member Bjorn Ulvaeus. Plus, music from Manic Street Preachers and Skunk Anansie (57133)

7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (221997) 7.55 Transition: Lagos Stories A husband and father-of-two who won an American

visa in a lottery (T) (176591) 8.00 Return to the Lost Gardens of Helioan The team attempt to restock the vegetable garden (2/4) (T) (5404)

8.30 Brookside Margi pours her heart out to Jessie (T) (4539) 9.00 Friends Ross goes out on his first date in nine years (r) (T) (2775)

9.30 Boyz Unlimited The band's rivalry with lellow heart-throbs Boyz Ltd takes a turn for the worse (4/6) (T) (69978) 10.00 CROICE Frasier Nijes and Frasier hold a danner party (T) (22959)

10.30 So Graham Norton Cornedy (764404) 11.10 King of the Hill Bobby prepares to go deer-hunting (T) (428220) 11.40 TFI Friday (r) (735862)

12.45am 4 Later: The RuPaul Show (69398) 1.15 Late Toon: Prodigy Cartoon (6559718) 1.30 The Mod Squad A young drug-addict is accused of murder (14973)

2.30 Vids Offbeat video review (r) (27992) 3.00 The Deadly Game (1986) Premiere. A student steals plutonium for his high school science project, prompting government agents to hunt him down. Thriller, starring John Lithgow. Directed by Marshall Brickman (166602) 4.55 A Hero of Our Time r (r) (80890028)

EekiStravaganza 11.05 Bobby's World 11.00 Life with Louie 11.00 Home to Rent

12.05pm Dennic and Grasher 12.30 Donkey Kong County 1.00 Mowgir. The New Adventures of Jungle Book 1.25 Ace Ventura 1.65 The Incredible Hulk 2.20 Iron

Vernura 1,95 in encreados Hulla 2,20 tron Man 2,45 Fantaskic Four 3,10 X-Men 3,30 Fox Kids X-Press 3,35 Spiderman 4,00 Goosebumps 4,25 Hero Tuster The Next Mutation 4,50 Cabper 5,00 Dennis and Grasher 8,30 Ace Vertura 6,00 Donley Kong Country 8,30 Existrates 9,00 City and the Codoroaches 7,00 Close

6.00eza Rocko's Modern Life 6.30 Bruno the Kid 7.00 CalDog 7.30 Rugrats 8.00 The Wild Thomberrys 8.30 Arthur 8.00 Children's BBC 10.00 Winnele's House

Chidren's BBC 10.00 Winzle's House 10.30 Baber 11.00 Megic School Bus 11.00 PB Beat/Anmel Antice/Family Ness 12.00pm Rugaris 12.20 Bue's Clues 1.00 Banenas in Pyamas 1.00 Little Beat Stones 5.00 Clengers/King Rollo/Wombles/Bod 2.30 Chidren's BBC 3.00 Chidren's BBC 3.30 Arthur 4.00 Three Friends and Jerry 4.30 Rugaris 8.00 Syster Sister 9.30 Sabrina the Teersep Witch 6.00 Rentord Reposts 8.30 Moeshe 7.00 Close

8.00cm A-Team 0.00 LAPO 9.30 Cops 10.00 Late Lounge 19.30 Erot ions 11.00 Fillist Beneath the

tans (Duringe 19.30 Erob: Confessions 11.00 FELMs Beneath the Valley of the Ultra Visens (1979) 1.00am Sex Bytes 1.36 Erob: Series 2.05 Late Lounge 2.36 Cops 6.00 FELM: Deep Cover (1992) 6.00 LAP.D 5.30 Bushdo 8.00 Close

7.00pm Jenny 7.00 Grace Under Fire 8.00

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

NICKELODEON '

BRAVO

CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport (6034930) 7.00 WideWorld Part six. The Japanese education system, which includes classes after school (r) (T) (6409171)

7.30 Milkshake! (9496305) 7.35 Wimzle's House (r) (3661997) 9.00 Havakazoo (r) (4437171) 8.30 Dappledown Farm (r) (4436442)

9.00 Nancy Lam (1136978) 9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (7861249) 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6507133)

10.20 Sunset Beach (T) (1514626) 11.10 Leeza (4923249) 12.00pm 5 News at Noon (T) (4407930)
12.30 Family Affairs Cat gives Pete a taste of his own medicine (r) (T) (9459404)

1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Grant is dismayed (T) (6408442) 1.30 The Roseanne Show The outspoken

comedian presents a apecial feature on the Superbowl (9458775) 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (5604404) 2.30 Good Afternoon (1257084) 3.30 | Love You Perfect (TVM 1989) A
woman's joy at finding the love of her life
ts ruined by the discovery that she's
suffering from terminal cancer. True-tife

romantic drama, with Susan Dey, Directed by Susan Dey (T) (9241046) 5.20 Sunset Beach (r) (T) (4140387) 6.00 100 Per Cent Cuiz (6861249) 6.30 Family Affairs Pete is absolutely furious at Claire (T) (6845201)

7.00 5 News; Weather (T) (5608220)
7.30 Champions of Nature A crusade to protect orang-utans in the harsh surroundings of the Bomeo jungle (1); 5 News Update (6874713) 9.00 Was It Good for You? A thirtysomething

couple's views on the ski resort of Aspen In Colorado (8/14) (5624268) 8.30 Nick's Quest Nick Baker profiles the

great white shark, one of the most leared ocean predators (2/8) (T) (5603775) 9.00 Woman Undone (TVM 1996) An

9.00 Woman Undone (TVM 1996) An unhappily married woman (ound beside the body of her dead husband is arrested and charged with his murder — little realising the amount of incriminating evidence against her discovered by the prosecutors. Melodrama, starning Mary McDonnell, Randy Quaid and Sarri Elliott. Directed by Evelyn Purcell (T); 5 News Update (44925220)

10.40 Poltergelst: The Legacy The team is plagued by the curse of the Dead Sea Scrolls leading them to confront hidden powers in the document (r) (T) (6457065) 11.35 Indecent Behaviour II (TVM 1994)
Erotic thriter, starring Shannon Tweed as a sex therapist who becomes chief suspect in a client's murder. Directed by

Carlo Gustaff (5832997) 1.25am Strange Volces (TVM 1987) A happy-go-lucky teenager's sudden descent into schizophrenia pushes her family to breaking point. Directed by Arthur Allan Seidelman (4792824)

3.10 Aloha, Bobby and Rose (1975) A garage mechanic and his girlfriend are mistaken for armed robbers and find themselves forced to go on the run. Directed by Floyd Mutrux (98298089) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (4759963) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (9499060)

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4.00pm The Civil War. The Better Angles of Our Nature 5.00 Firefighting: Extreme Conditions 3.00 Temples of Electry 7.00 Warhorse: The Last Charge

9.00am Food Network Daily 9.30 Coxon's Kitchen College 16.00 Peried Pasta with Aldo 215 10.30 Alve and Cooling 11.00 What's Cooling? 11.30 A Sice of the Action 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30 Neuman Meets 1.00 Coxon's Kitchen College 1.30 Coxon's Ritchen

College 1.30 Gordon Ramsey's Passion for Flavour 9.00 Caril Stand the Heat 2.30 Food Network Daily 3.00 Food Factory 8.50 A Slice of the Action 4.00 New Chets on the

HISTORY

CARLTON FOOD

Kitchen 5.00 Close

LIVING

PAY TV: SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL



4.00pm The Big Clock (1948) (7191713) 6.00 Blood on the Moon (1946) (1553133) 5.00 Sulfatar's Travels (1941) (1563978) 16.00 The Pink Pauliter Strikes Again (1978) (8525539) 11.45 Tony Rome (1967) (7328517) 3.36 The Hustler (1978) (7328517) 3.36 The

TNT 8.00pm WCW Nino (88275667) 11.35 WCW Trunder (29722249) 1.03em Denton Seed (1977) (46799992) 3.00 Operation Crossbow (1966) (47531242) 6.00 Close

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY-SPORTS 1

4.30 mm Future in Sport 7.00 Sports Centre
7.10 World Westling Federation
Superstant 8.15 You're On Sty Sports 19.00
Racing News 9.30 Aerobics Oz Style 16.00
Sportsh Footbal 12.00 pm Aerobics Oz
Style 12.30 Footbal Leggie Review 1.00
World Sport Special 1.00 Futbol Mundial
2.00 What A: Weekend 2.30 Fastax 3.00
The Regby Cub 4.00 Trans World Sport
5.00 Futbol Mundial 5.30 What s Weekend
6.00 Sports Centre 7.00 Moor Sport 6.00
Powerboaring 9.00 World Sport 3ports
Centre 11.30 Hold the Back Page 10.30 Sports
Centre 11.30 Hold the Back Page 12.30ms
Sports Centre 1.30 World Wrestling
Federation: Rew 3.30 Hold the Back Page
4.30 Sports Centre 5.30 Moto Pus

EUROSPORT 7.30 m. Pive-a-Side Footbell 8.30 Women's Biethon 9.00 Live Nordic Sking 11.30 Women's Nordic Sking 12.30 pm Luge 1.00 Recing Line 1.30 Showboarding 2.00 Live Bighton 3.15 Terms 9.30 Live Pive-a-Side Footbell 7.00 Live Women's Terms 6.00 Live Nordic Sking 9.45 Raily 16.00 Five-a-Side Footbell 11.15 Extreme Sports 12.15am Reily 12.30 Cose

UK GOLD UK GOLD

7,00am Crossrouds 7.30 Neighbours 7.55
EastEnders 8.30 The Bill 9.00 The Bill 9.30
When the Soar Comes in 10.30 Rhode.
11.00 Deles 11.55 Neighbours 12.25pm
EastEnders 1.00 Juliet Batvo 2.00 Deles
2.65 The Bill 3.25 The Bill 3.35 EastEnders
4.30 Rhode 5.00 All Creatures Great and
Small 6.00 Dynesty 7.00 2point4 Children
7.40 Del7 Army 8.20 The Britiss Empire
9.00 The Thin Blue Line 9.40 Harry Enfect
and Crums 19.20 Ruby Water Meets Parmeta
Anderson 10.55 The Bill 11.25 The Bill
11.55 Doctor Who 1.40am Belien's Seven
3.00 Shooping with Screenshop

GRANADA PLUS 8.00mm Within These Walls 7.00 Bowler 7.00 Doctor at Large 8.00 Beedle's About 8.30 The Marry Whose of Patrick 9.00 Clessic Coronadion Street 9.30 Emmerdale Farm 10.00 Upstairs Downstars 11.00 The Gentle Touch 12.00pm Classic Coronation Street 12.30 Emmerdale Farm 1.00 The Marry Whose of Patrick 1 on the in the



Jack Nicolson and Helen Hunt both give Oscar-winning performances in the romantic comedy As Good As It Gets (Box Office 3)

Middle 0.00 Lipstairs Downsters 3.00 The Love Boat 4.00 The Seint 5.00 Hart to Hart 0.00 Enmerdale Farm 9.30 Classo Coronation Street 7.00 Mission Impossible 6.00 The Love Boat 8.00 Classic Coronation Street 9.30 The Cornections 10,00 Johns Wild 18.30 Sez Les 11.00 Granada Men and Motors CARLTON SELECT

5.00pm What's Coolong? 5.30 Gndlock 8.30 London Bridge 6.30 Get Back 7.00 Boon 8.00 Blue Heelers 9.00 Love Hurs 16.00 That's Love 19.30 The Screen 11.00 Fill Street Blues 12.00em Us and Them 12.30 Gndlock 1.00 The 1.2st Place on Earth 9.00 Close DISNEY CHANNEL 8,00am Beer in the Big Blue House 6.25 Classic Toons 6.35 Gumm Beers 7.00 Classic Toons 7.10 Aladoh 7.35 101 Damstans 8.00 Goof Troop 8.25 Classic Toons 6.45 New Adventures of Winne the Pool 8.00 The Adventures of Spot 9.00 Agmal Shell 8.15 Focket Dragons 0.30 Beer in the Big Blue House 9.55 The Toothbrush Family 10.00 Bits Size 10.10 Tots TV 19.30 The Big Garage 10.45 FB and J Otter 11.00 Sesserie Street 12.00pm The Adventures of Spot 12.05 Anthrail Shelf 12.10 Pocket Dragons 12.30 Beer in the Big Blue House 12.55 The Toothbrush Family 1.00 Bits Size 1.10 Tots TV 1.00 The Big Garage 1.45 FB and J O tits 2.00 New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh 2.30 Cusck. Pack 6.00 The Little Mermaid 9.30 Art Altack 4.00 the Little Mermaid 9.30 Art Altack 4.00 the Dalmatians 4.30 Hercules: The TV Show 6.00 Recess 8.15 Papper Ann 5.30 Smart Guy 8.00 Teen Angel 9.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 Fil.N: The Brave Little Toester Goes to Mars (1997) 8.15 Toester Goes to Mars (1997) 8.15 Dinoseurs 9.45 Home Improvement 10.15

6.00mm Adventures of Dodo 6.00 Power Ranges Turbo 6.30 Power Rangers Turbo 6.55 Spatemen 7.20 Ogby and the Cockwordes 7.00 Donkey Kong Country 6.00 Hero Turries: The New Muzaton 6.30 The incredible Hulk 0.00 Iron Man 8.15 Fentastic Four 9.40 X-Men 18.00 Cesper

Fan 8.30 NewsRadio 6.00 Drop the Dead Donkey 9.30 Whose Line is il Anyway? 18.00 FILDI: Romantic Comedy (1983) 12.00 FILDI: Romantic Comedy (1983) 12.00em Laie Night with Dead Letterman 1.00 Teol 1.30 The Critic 5.00 by Nezz 9.30 Tibs and Fibe 3.00 Nightsland 8.30 Abbot and Costello 4.00 Close THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: Som-MIDNIGHT ONLY 7.30am Bromberg Information Television 8.00 Sightings 9.00 Battestar Gelectics 10.00 Custmum Leep 11.00 Datk Shadows 11.30 The Ray Bradbury Theatre 12.00pm Twitight Zone 1.00 Tales of the Unexpected 2.00 Arrazing Stories 2.20 Mysteries, Magic and Miracles 5.00 Bettlesrar Galactica 4.00 The Incredible Hulk 5.00 Sightings 6.00 The Ray Brachury Theaire 6.30 New Afrech Highcock 7.00 Cuantum Leap 3.00 Amezing Stories 8.30 Highlander The Raven 9.30 The Hunger 19.00 FILM: Lord of Bustlons (1995) 12.00am FILM: Space Adventure Cobra (1995) 1.45 Sci-Fous Special 9.00 The Guyver 2.30 100 Years of Honor 3.00 Twilding Zone 3.30 Dark Shadows 4.00 Close

HOME & LEISURE 8.00am Today's Gournet 6.30 Graham Ker 7.00 Room Sankce 7.00 The Painted House 8.00 Wedding Story 8.30 A Baby Story 8.00 Simply Painting 9.25 The Home and Lesure House 9.30 Potted History with Antony Hern 16.00 Real Gardens 10.30 Coolsabout with Greg and Mex 11.00 The Documen 11.00 Fishing Australia 12.00pm Our House Down Under 12.30 Antiques Trail 1.00 Cur House 1.00 Homeime 5.00 New Yankse Workshoo 8.30 Home Acan New Yankee Workshop 9.30 Home Again with Bob Vila 3.00 This Clid House with Steve and Norm 3.30 Go Fishing

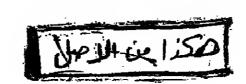
DISCOVERY 4.00pm Rex Huni Fishing Adventures 4.30
Walker's World 5.00 Wheel Nurs 9.30
Tressure Hunters 6.00 Wildlife SOS 8.30
Ways of the Wild 7.00 The Elegant Solution
6.00 Outback Adventures 6.30 Uncharted
Arica 8.00 Marm Swat 19.00 Bish of a
Salesman 11.00 Kings of the Rig 12.00am
Inside the Glesshouse 1.00 Tressure Inside the Glasshouse 1,00 Tre Hunters 1,30 Wheel Nus 8,00 Close

ANIMAL PLANET 12.00pm The Blue Beyond 1.00 Nature Wasch with Julian Petaler 1.30 Crocodie Hunter 8.00 WWd Rescues 2.30 Human/Nature 3.30 Hamy's Practice 4.00 Lack Hanna's 200 Life 4.30 Ammal Doctor 5.00 Pet Rescue 8.30 Crocodie Hunter 6.00 The New Adventures of Black Beauty 8.30 Lasse 7.00 Rediscovery of the World 8.00 Ammal Doctor 8.30 Ammal X 9.00 Cosen Wide 8.30 Energency Vets 18.00 Mystenes of the Ocsan Wanderen 11.00 Vet School 11.00 Emergency Vets 12.00em Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm A Lizard's Summer 7.30 Alchemy in Light 8.00 Shark Atlack Files 0.00 Amate 18.00 Puma: Lions of the Ancies 11.00 ELIVING

8.00am Trry and Crew 6.20 Johnson and Friends 6.30 Greedysatrus and the Gorg 6.40 Tiny Tales 6.45 Phabert the Frog 8.50 Potes Dox Shorts 7.00 Practical Parenting 7.05 Professor Buble 7.30 Califou 7.35 Bug Alert 7.00 Practical Parenting 8.00 Barney and Friends 8.25 Babeloos 6.50 Califou 8.30 Tiny and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Carl Cook, Worl' Cook 9.30 The Rossarine Show 19.00 The Jerry Springer Show 19.00 The Jerry Springer Show 19.00 The Jerry Springer Show 19.00 Maint Peace 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Special Babies 1.40 Beyond Belief Fact or Fiction 2.10 LA Law 3.10 Lamp Spring Show 10.50 Michael Cole 4.50 Rolonds 8.40 Resoly, Steedy, Cook 8.15 The Jerry Syrunger Show 7.05 Rescue 911 7.25 Animal Rescue 8.10 Maury Powich 9.00 Fill.lit. The Absolute Truth (1996) 11.00 Sex Life Down Under 12.00am Cose 9.00 FILM: The Absolute Truth (1996) 11.00 Sex Life Down Under 12.00am Clos ZEE TV 5.30mm Music Time 6.00 Sorry Men Lony 6.30 Mast Musi Show 7.00 Faith Musilm 7.30 News 8.00 Zee World 8.30 Salasab 9.00 Achileer 16.00 Anhon: 11.00 Z 2.00 Annier 16.00 Annon 11,00 Zelec Ka Saler 11,00 Perampser 12,00pm; Fillib: Hindi Movier Jamoe AnJasme 3.00 Zee Bangla 3.30 Its My Choice 4.00 Albei Birbel 4.30 Its My Choice 4.00 Albei Show 20 Zee Zone 5.30 Amenel 6.00 Ansi of the Formyth 6.30 Zee and Your Showcase 7.00 Chasme Baddoor 7.50 Entertainment Express 8.00 News 8.30 Assistance 19.00 Fillib: Hindi Movier Yes

Vanda Raha 12.00em News 12.20 Ru-Ba-Ru 1.00 X-Zone 2.00 FILM: Hind





MOTOR RACING 54

How Eddie Jordan plans to close the credibility gap

SP()RT

RUGBY LEAGUE 55

Cummins repays Leeds' faith in youth policy



Wembley delay threatens 2006 hopes AND FA



yesterday urged not to delay selling the national stadium as it could ruin England's hopes of staging the 2006 football World Cup. The sharehold-ers are being lobbied to reject or hold up the sale, as time runs out in the campaign to bring the tourna-ment back to England for the first

The Football Association has to meet a deadline of July this year to provide written details of the bid to Fifa, the world governing body of football, and that must include complete details of the new national stadium, which would stage many of the games in 2006 including the

Alec McGivan, the director of the 2006 World Cup campaign, said yesterday: "We do need a decision for the bid. We do not want any

further delay."
The shareholders of Wembley plc will consider the offer from the English National Stadium Development Company (ENSDC), a joint venture between the English Sports Council and the Football Association, at its extraordinary general meeting on March II. The plans include knocking down the existing structure after the FA Cup Final this summer and building a new 80,000-seat stadium for use by other sports, including rugby league and athletics, as well as football.

However, three independent directors, Jarvis Astaire, Peter Mead and Roger Brooke, are circularising shareholders, telling them that the recommendation of Claes Hultman, By John Goodbody

coup and a bargain for them. A bargain for the FA is not a good deal

for you, particularly in view of what

Two other companies, ENIC and SFX, have approached the plc to try

to buy the shares and the three inde-

for the famous site is either turned

events such as the FA Cup Final at

you are giving up."

the chairman of Wembley plc. to sell the stadium is against their

The trio have said that they do not believe that the present terms "reflect the contribution that Wembley shareholders are being asked to make towards the development of the national stadium, particularly by giving up their rights under the existing contract with the FA". This expires in July 2002.

They point out that Wembley plc would lose the right to use the stadium for entertainment events and state: "The FA has been pressing for Wembley to complete the contract and it seems obvious to us that they regard the acquisition of the stadi-

However, if the deal does not go ahead in the next few months, it could also mean the end of England's attempt to stage the World Cup, not only in 2006 but also for the foreseeable future. In addition. any hopes of holding the 2003 world

athletics championships would end.
The alternative site for a national pendent directors have recommended to shareholders to delay, pointing stadium would be Eastlands, Manout that 'it will not close off the possi-bility of a future sale on preferable chester, but this is clearly a secondbest option, particularly since the city already houses the 55,000-seat Old Trafford, the biggest club stadium in England. The shareholders are also aware of the threats that if the ENSDC's offer of £103 million of lottery money

The delay in settling the future of down or delayed, then the Football Association would pull out of play-ing internationals and domestic Wembley has certainly been unhelpful to England's campaign. The name of Wembley possesses such a resonance for many countries that it

Wembley when the present contract has a crucial role in England's bid to get the tournament in the battle against the other leading contenders, Germany and South Africa.

The FA has already visited most of the countries that provide the 25 members of the Fifa executive com-mittee. Sir Bobby Charlton. Tony Banks, the Minister for Sport, and McGivan will shortly be visiting Tunisia and then Charlton and McGivan will be travelling to New Zealand.

After the written details are submitted in July, the facilities in England will be inspected in the autumn, with the Fifa executive committee due to make its decision in March, 2000.

European changes, page 57 Graham weaves magic, page 57

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100 pt 10

Kafelnikov in reach of highest peak

THE graphic famously depicting Graham Taylor as a turnip may be superimposed on Yevgeny Kafelnikov if he fails to beat Thomas Johansson in the Guardian Direct Cup at Battersea Park. Defeat by the Swede would prevent Kafelnikov from displacing Pete Sampras as the world No I, in the process denying British fans their first glimpse of such a coronation.

Kafelnikov's quest supremacy became possible yesterday when Johansson, seeded No 8, beat Davide Sanguinetti, of Italy, 6-0, 6-7, Suitably fortified. Kafelnikov immediately dismissed Byron Black, of Zimbabwe, 6-3, 6-2 to herald a fanfare heard just 14 times since the rankings system was introduced 26 years ago.

The bonus points available for beating Johansson will now suffice for the Russian. That it should all be happening in London is heady stuff. It

gist (8) 10 Present in, native to, area (7)

11 Not having (7) 12 One showing you to seat (5)

14 Available at demand (2.3)

15 Hymn of praise (5)

20 Everlasting (7)

23 Verse of poem (6)

17 Today 19 Roman

24 Time of year (6)

19 Air passages (lung) (7)

22 Free French leader (2,6)

will surely whet the appetite of Tim Henman, to whom Kafelnikov yesterday dispensed some blunt advice. After Henman was surprisingly beaten on Wednesday night by Jan Kroslak, a qualifier from Slovakia, Kafelnikov said that Henman would do well to make available more practice

time by scaling down his personal endorsements.

The Russian's comments cershould take a leaf out of his book, he said, by refusing lucrative deals that make counter-demands on a player's time. The problem here is that Kafelnikov - who, al 25, is the same age as Henman - is several rungs higher up the

The Australian Open champion. Kafelnikov won his first grand-slam title three years

and \$13 million (about £8 million) in prize-money. He has been among the game's high-

not burn a hole in his stomach, as it does, initially, in most players from eastern Europe. "When you make your first million." Kafelnikov said. you want to hil two, then five, then ten." And then you get bored, as Kafelnikov did last year. Henman is not remotely in that league.

The fact that he may now year in private endorsements is a recent phenomenon. He has won but four titles and has never reached the final of a Super 9 event, never mind a grand, slam. His failure to attain these heights explains his profound sense of disappointment when he is beaten

"Perhaps Tim could cut his TIMESTWO CROSSWORD

Although Henman's defeat by Kroslak, ranked No 79 in

ago. He has plundered 19 titles est earners for four years.
One thing that Henman does not lack is hunger. It may

appearance schedule to focus on aspects that will improve his game," Kafelnikov said. "He should spend more time on the practice court. You don't realise it, but you are giving away so much energy at sponsors' functions."

the world, was disappointing he has advanced his world ranking every year since he first registered on the computer six years ago. He is at present No 7, a career high. Kafelnikov was on safer territory when he cited Hen-

on the ATP Tour players' coun-



Kafelnikov, who later offered Henman some advice, serves during the victory over Black that left him one win away from assuming Sampras's marrile

cil as a hindrance to his progress. Most who served before the Briton found that their

game suffered for it. Kafelnikov agreed that Henman needs further exposure to the big-match atmosphere. To improve your game generally you have to spend a lot of time playing on different sur-

faces," he said. Yet Henman played more tournaments last year than all bar one man --Kafelnikov himself. And among other fellow top ten residents, only one player has enjoyed a better start to the year than Henman - Kafeinikov again. It is a measure of the

which also banned Badenhorst from all cricket for two

years for calling a Griqualand

West opponent "a half-breed

son, the director of umpiring

and playing affairs, con-

firmed that discussions had

taken place regarding the out-

lawing of terms such as "cool-

ie creeper" and "chinaman".

minology to make sure it nev-

er happens again." he said.

We have to consider the sensi-

Woolmer, having been

ordered to include Herschelle

Gibbs in the remaining three

one-day internationals, said:

"We pick the teams for cricket

land was not complied with,

to the consternation of the

UCB. This misunderstanding

has now been resolved and I

do not expect that there will be

any further problems in this

tivities of every person in

South Africa."

"We need to analyse the ter-

disagrees. Brian Bas-

that he is measured against

the very best. In addition to the Kafelnikov-Johansson match, a second quarter-final was forged when Karol Kucera, seeded No S. routed Guillaume Raoux, of France, 6-2, 6-0. Kucera today confronts Richard Krajicek, aspirations held for Henman

seeded No 4. Anelka to

Racial disputes blight South African cricket

No 1651 ACROSS composition of its national 1 Domed roof (6) l Responsibility; attack (6) sides and accusations of 7 Smali mammal: deceitful 2 Issue, assign (8) 3 Fort defenders (8) racism within the game.

Even during the recent
West Indies lour here, how-(words) (6) 4 Wilfred - war poet (4) 8 Golden Treasury antholo-

5 The press; documents (6) 6 Old and forgetful (6) 9 Meat-accompanying plant (9) 12 Current, modern (2-2-4) 13 Gk. strongman, had labours 16 Sharp-witted (6)

17 Out and out (knave, fool) (6) 18 Nunc dimittis speaker: sounds like monkey (6) 21 Giselle composer, 18C archi-

: SOLUTION TO NO 1650 ACROSS: I Scenic 5 Rick 8 Draw 9 Abortive 10 Syllabub 11 Arts 12 Vendor 14 Energy 16 Stop 18 Abhorred 20 Addendum 21 Mace 22 Pyre 23 Yankee DOWN: 2 Carlyle 3 Newel 4 Chambermaids 5 Rat race 6 Covet 7 Double whammy 13 Deplete 1S Glencoe

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ever, when the UCBSA was roundly condemned for fielding an all-white side in the first Test match, events did not get as convoluted as they did yesterday, to the point where the board said that it was considering banning the use of cricketing terms such as "chinaman" that could cause

lo a manner that characterises the complexities it has encountered, the UCBSA disciplined Brian McMillan, of Western Province, and Alan Badenhorst, of Eastern Province B. for allegedly racist remarks made last week during provincial matches. At the same time, Bob Woolmer. coach of the South Africa side in-New Zealand, reacted angrily to the political pressure imposed on him to in-

McMillan was severely reprimanded and is to make a public apology after suggest mg that Claude Henderson

And the second

FROM THRASY PETROPOULOS IN JOHANNESBURG

bowl Ashraf Mall a "coolid creeper" in a match against known in South African circles, referring to a ball that bounces more than once before passing the batsman, but "coolie" has pejorative connotations towards Asians.

Of further embarrassment. however, was McMillan's initial reaction to accusations of racism. "I am not prepared to apologise for what I did because I think it is part of cricketing terminology," he said.
"Does that mean changing a 'chinaman? Some people might take offence at that term. I think h's a lot of crap."

clude non-white players.

reasons and cricket reasons only. I have never been interested in politics and nor shall I ever want to be." The remarks contradicted a statement from Ray White, the UCBSA chairmman, that said: "Owing to a misunderstanding, the board's policy in relation to the selection of the South African team for the second and third one-day internationals in New Zea-

stay at Highbury:

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON FOOTBALL'S

FOOTBALL'S grapevine works in mysterious ways. On Tuesday, Roberto Bettega, the Juventus vice-president, was seen watching Arsenal's FA Cup fifth-round rematch against Sheffield United. Yesterday, it was reported in Italy that Juventus were planning a "£20 million bid" for Nicolas Anelka, Arsenal's young France striker

Last week it was Barcelona who were apparently interested, before an official denial was issued by the Spanish

Arsene Wenger, the Arsenal manager, was at pains vesterday to assert: "Nicolas is not for sale, at any price. The problem is that you can't control the people around the players who want to make quick money. The player has a good game and they think he can move elsewhere."

Bettega is a close friend of David Dein, the Arsenal vicechairman, and it is believed his visit to North London was more social than professional. Juventus may be struggling in Serie A — they lie in seventh place. 12 points behind Lazio,

the leaders - but they are not expected to begin recruiting until the summer, when Marcello Lippi will make way for Carlo Ancelotti, the new



Head Office: Odyssey Corporation Fig. to Lord Lame Contention Lame, London Fig. (2).

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